



*** Easter Is Coming!!! ***



AGAWAM Advertiser News

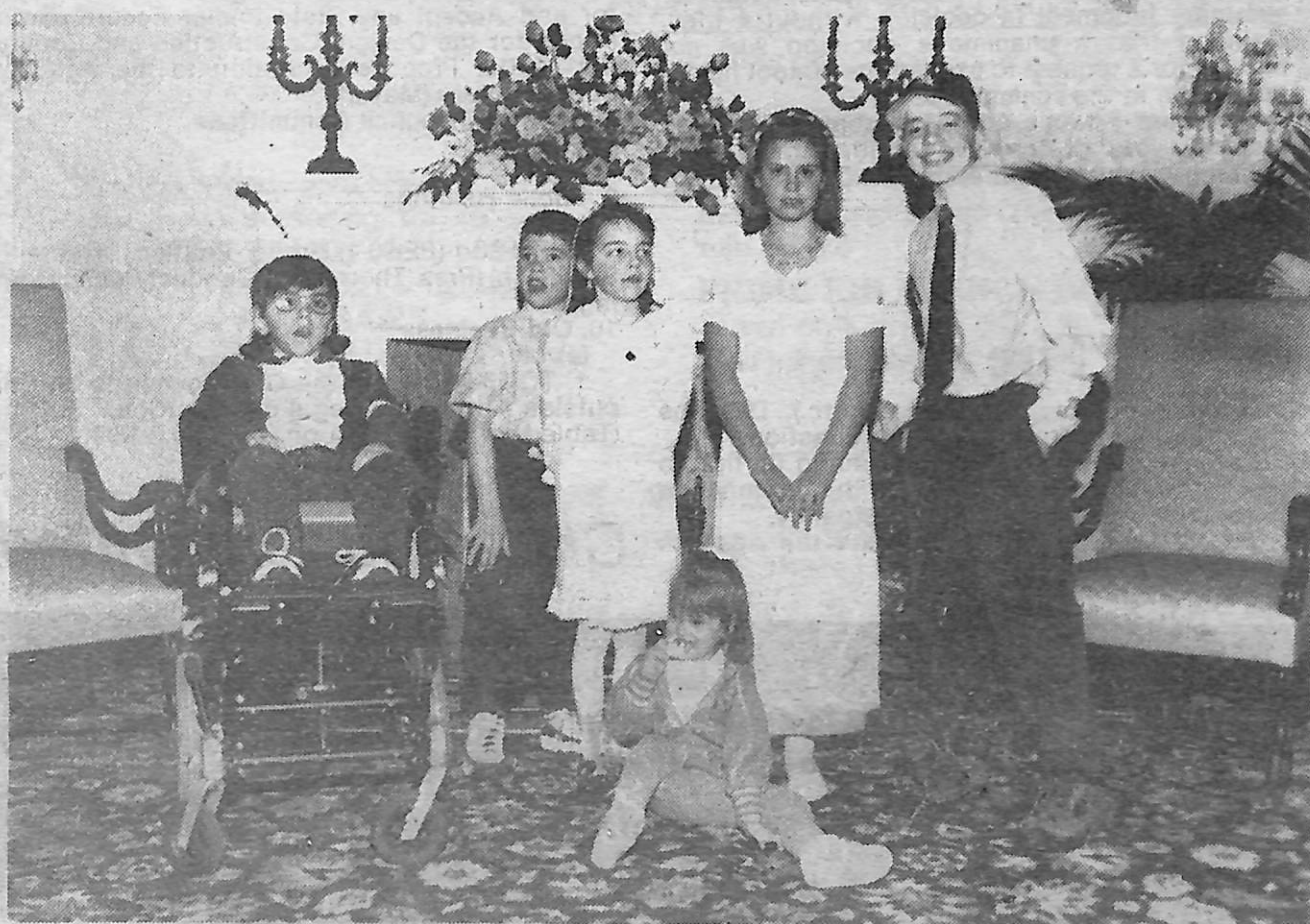
CAR-RT SORT **** CR11
Agawam Public Library
750 Cooper St
Agawam, MA 01001

55¢

Volume XIX Number 13

"Your Hometown Newspaper"

March 28, 1996



THE CHILDREN PICTURED ABOVE were honored at the Epilepsy Dinner-Dance at The Oaks where 450 people attended. The children are Brent Bovat, Michael Pietroniro, Shannon McDermott, Elissa Desroches, Jacob Bennett, and Nichole Martel. MORE PHOTOS IN FOR YOUR HEALTH. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Epilepsy Awareness Brings Out 450 To Dinner-Dance

The second Annual Dinner-Dance for Epilepsy Awareness was held on Saturday, March 9, 1996.

Over 450 people attended this event and everyone had a great time! The children in our community whose lives are affected by epilepsy joined with their families and friends in raising awareness about epilepsy.

William Bennett (whose son, Jacob, has uncontrolled epilepsy) hosted the evening and welcomed many of the parents of these children to share a little bit of what living with epilepsy is like. Dr. Anthony Jackson, Dr. Herbert Gilmore, and Dr. Joseph Donnelly of Baystate Medical Center, as well as Dr. Sandra Helmers from Boston Children's Hospital attended the dinner-dance to show their support and help people better understand epilepsy.

Other guests included Representative Richard Neal and Mayor Christopher Johnson.

The Michael Pietroniro Fundraising Committee joined with everyone attending this important event in a truly enjoyable evening. The Crescents Rock n' Roll Show Band lived up to their reputation for great entertainment and fun.

Channel 22 covered the event, as did Jack Devine of *The Advertiser News*. Attendance at the second Annual Dinner-Dance for Epilepsy Awareness was double that of the first, and here's hoping that next year's event will be an even greater success!!

Agawam Rotary Club Commemorates Its 20th Anniversary

The Agawam Rotary Club celebrated its 20th anniversary at Chez Josef on Friday, March 15, 1996.

The club presented the prestigious "Paul Harris Fellow" award to Jack Sarat, who has given so much time, effort, and monetary contributions to so many deserving projects, including Polio Plus and Easter Seals.

Mayor Christopher Johnson, State Representative Daniel Keenan, and State Senator Linda Melconian all presented Rotary President Kathy Ayre with special citations for the club. Dick Garvey was the featured speaker and was incredibly interesting as always.

The club itself has been involved in many projects and fundraisers within the community as well as internationally. Just a few of the beneficiaries of the Rotary Club's activities have been the Agawam Public Library, Agawam Police Department, Agawam Child Abuse Program, DARE, scholarships, Senior Citizen Center, Special Olympics, Toy For Joy, Renaissance Program, and many more.

Miss Agawam Pageant On Mon., April 1st

The 9th Annual Miss Agawam Beauty Pageant & Talent Competition will be held Monday, April 1st at Chez Josef on Shoemaker Lane.

The talent competition will begin at 6:00 p.m., followed by the Beauty Pageant at 7:00. Modeling agency interviews will be available, as well as an autograph signing by International World Martial Arts/Shootfighting Champion Bart Vale.

The public is invited to attend. Tickets will be on sale at the door for \$5.



JACK SARAT (right), owner operator of Sarat Ford Sales, Inc., Agawam, was presented the prestigious "Paul Harris Fellow" Award at the 20th Anniversary Dinner of the Agawam Rotary Club at Chez Josef. Sarat is pictured with his wife, Karen (right), and fellow Rotarians Reverend Donald Morris (left), and President Kathy Ayre. RELATED PHOTOS IN FAMILIES SECTION. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Superior Court Refuses Opponents' Request For Intervenor Status On Power Plant

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

A superior court judge has refused to grant intervenor status to a group of power plant opponents. This relates to the case of Berkshire Power's appeal of the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) denial of a special permit to build a gas-fired power plant in the industrial park on Shoemaker Lane.

In denying the motion filed on behalf of 16 abutting businesses and residents (and one abutter to an abutter—Country Estates Partnership), Justice Bertha D. Josephson found that they were not persons "aggrieved by a decision of the board of appeals."

Justice Josephson further found that the abutters' fears that their interests would be inadequately represented due to the alleged conflict of interest surrounding the roles of the town solicitors and the Mayor's support of the project were "much too speculative."

Justice Josephson's ruling states, "It is arguable that, by virtue of their votes in favor of the plaintiff's (BP's) application, two-thirds of the Board (ZBA) have interests adverse to the abutters. This argument is undercut by one of the principal concerns of the abutters themselves, that the two town counsels, Locke and Sclafani, are independently representing the 'factions' on the board."

"Sclafani, alone, is defending the decision of the

board. The extent to which he appears to be aligned solely with the 'dissenter,' Gendron, tilts the balance away from the potential conflict of interest, which could possibly be inferred if he was also defending the 'adverse' board members who voted in favor of the plaintiff."

Town Councilor Gary Suffriti has proposed hiring an independent attorney to advise the council as to the possible conflict of interest in having the town solicitors defend the ZBA when the administration is strongly supporting the power plant project. At the council meeting last week, Suffriti agreed to leave his item on the table until an opinion could be obtained from the state Ethics Commission.

In January, the ZBA voted 2-1 in favor of granting the permit, but refused to issue the permit on the grounds that the vote had to be unanimous.

Berkshire Power filed an appeal of that decision in January and last month filed a motion for summary judgment (a decision without a trial), claiming that a unanimous decision was not needed for a request to exceed the 40-foot height restriction in the zoning code.

Berkshire Power's attorneys contend that the majority vote of the ZBA entitles them to a building permit so that construction of the plant can begin.

Fire Wise...

by Fire Chief David Pisano

How To Report A Fire

The Agawam Fire Department offers the following advice on how to place an emergency telephone call.

Keep emergency numbers on every phone in your home and ask your neighbors to do the same. Should an emergency occur, you may need to use your neighbor's phone.

Give your name AND complete address (include

apartment number, subdivision, etc.). Describe the situation and wait to answer questions.

Remember, let the dispatcher hang up first to insure he or she obtained all the information necessary to respond to the emergency.

For further information, contact the Agawam Fire Department at 786-2662.

Regular Town Council Meeting Agenda For Monday, April 1st

1. Citizen's Speak Time
2. Roll Call
3. Moment of Silence and the Pledge of Allegiance
4. Minutes - Regular Council Meeting of 3/18/96
5. Declaration from Council President
6. Presentation of Petitions, Memorials & Remonstrances

(a) Resolutions

1. TR-96-6-Resolution Confirming the Reappointment of Mary Hunter, 74 Senator Ave., Agawam, MA to the Board of Registrars for a Three Year Term Expiring April 1, 1999 (Mayor).

2. TR-96-7-Resolution Confirming the Reappointment of Marilyn Curry, 6 So. West St., FH, MA to the Thomas Pyne and Whiting St. Fund for a Three Year Term Expiring December 31, 1998 (Mayor).

3. TR-96-8-Resolution Accepting the Preliminary Design of the Proposed Addition to the Agawam Public Library and Authorizing the Mayor to Apply for and Accept any State and/or Federal Grant Funds for the Design, Construction and Equipping of the Proposed Addition to the Agawam Public Library (Mayor).

7. Report of Council Committees

8. Elections

None.

9. Public Hearings

(a)

1. PH-96-1-(PE-96-1)-Group Petition, Article 8, Sec. 8-1(b) (Pres. Thompson)(Conduct Public Hearing).

10. Old Business

(a)

1. TO-96-8-Request the City Council to hire an outside Attorney for legal opinion (Coun. Suffriti) (Tabled on 3/6/96 - Left on table on 3/18/96).

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Daily Specials
Lunch And Dinner

On The Avenue

LOBSTER TRAP AND GRILL

900 Memorial Avenue

West Springfield

ON THE AVENUE'S LUNCHEON MENU

APPETIZERS

Shrimp Cocktail - **\$4.95**
Crispy Chicken Wings - **\$4.95**
Fried Clams Strips - **\$5.25**
Fried Mozzarella - **\$4.95**

Chicken Tenders - **\$4.95**
Onion Rings - **\$3.25**
French Fries - **\$2.95**
Cup of Soup or House Salad - **\$1.75**

ON THE AVENUE'S LUNCHEON BUFFET

Two hot Entrees daily, Rolls, Fruit, Soup & Salad Bar - **\$5.99**
Chef Salad - **\$4.95**

Hearty Sandwiches Served w/chips & pickle

TUNA - Made with celery slices and special seasoning. **\$3.25**
TURKEY CLUB - Hefty portion of Turkey Breast, Bacon & Lettuce, Tomato & Mayo. **\$4.25**
CHICKEN SALAD - A Heaping portion made fresh daily. **\$3.25**

GRILLED CHICKEN - 6 oz. Breast marinated and served on a water roll. **\$3.75**

PRIME RIB FRENCH DIP
Served on a French Roll
w/au jus on the side. **\$4.50**

FRESH FISHWICH - Beer Battered Fish of the day. **\$3.75**
GRILLED CHEESE - Simple & tasty. **\$2.50**
HAMBURGER - Patties made daily. **\$3.00** w/cheese **\$3.25**

LITE ENTREES

ON THE AVENUE'S FISH & CHIPS - A Beer Battered Fresh Fish deep Fried and served w/Fries & Cole Slaw. **\$5.50**
TENDERLOIN TIPS - Tasty chunks of Tenderloin Sauteed in our special Avenue sauce served w/Rice. **\$6.75**

GRILLED CHICKEN - Marinated in an Italian dressing, served w/Rice. **\$5.25**
BONELESS PORK CHOP - Grilled with our house seasoning served w/Rice. **\$5.75**
HOT TURKEY - Over Rice & Gravy served w/Cranberry. **\$4.95**

Our Dinner Menu Begins... ONE IF BY LAND

It will be our pleasure to serve any of our "Land" selections either Traditionally, Blackened or "Avenue" style.

Filet Mignon (10 oz.) - **\$13.95**
Top Sirloin (10 oz.) - **\$10.50**
New York Strip Sirloin (10 oz.) - **\$12.95**
Pork Chop Center Cuts - **\$9.95**

Grilled Chicken Breast - **\$9.95**
Prime Rib
16 oz. King Cut - **\$15.95**
10 oz. Regular Cut - **\$11.95**

TWO IF BY SEA

Fresh Baked Fish of the day - **\$9.95**
A flaky fillet layered with our seasoned bread crumbs.
Fresh Baked Sea Scallops - **\$10.95**
Served piping hot with a touch of seasoned bread crumbs.
Baked Stuffed Shrimp - **\$12.95**
Jumbo white shrimp fillet with our crabmeat stuffing.

Grilled Swordfish - **\$11.95**
Traditional or Cajun style.
Also available Fried or Blackened
Fish - **\$7.95**, Scallops - **\$8.95**, or Shrimp - **\$10.95**
Fresh Lobsters — MARKET PRICE
Steamed, Baked Stuffed, "Avenue" Style,
"Lazy Man's Lobster" upon request

ON THE AVENUE'S DILEMMA

Choose any two from the Land or the Sea

Filet Mignon
Top Sirloin
New York Strip Sirloin
Grilled Chicken
Prime Rib

Baked Stuffed Shrimp
Baked Sea Scallops
Grilled Swordfish
Baked Stuffed Half Lobster
MARKET PRICE

Choice of any two - **\$15.95**

Early Bird Special - **10% discount**, 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. (Monday through Thursday only)
"On the Avenue" is available for private parties and functions.

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Good Sunday, March 31st

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\$9.95 ADULTS

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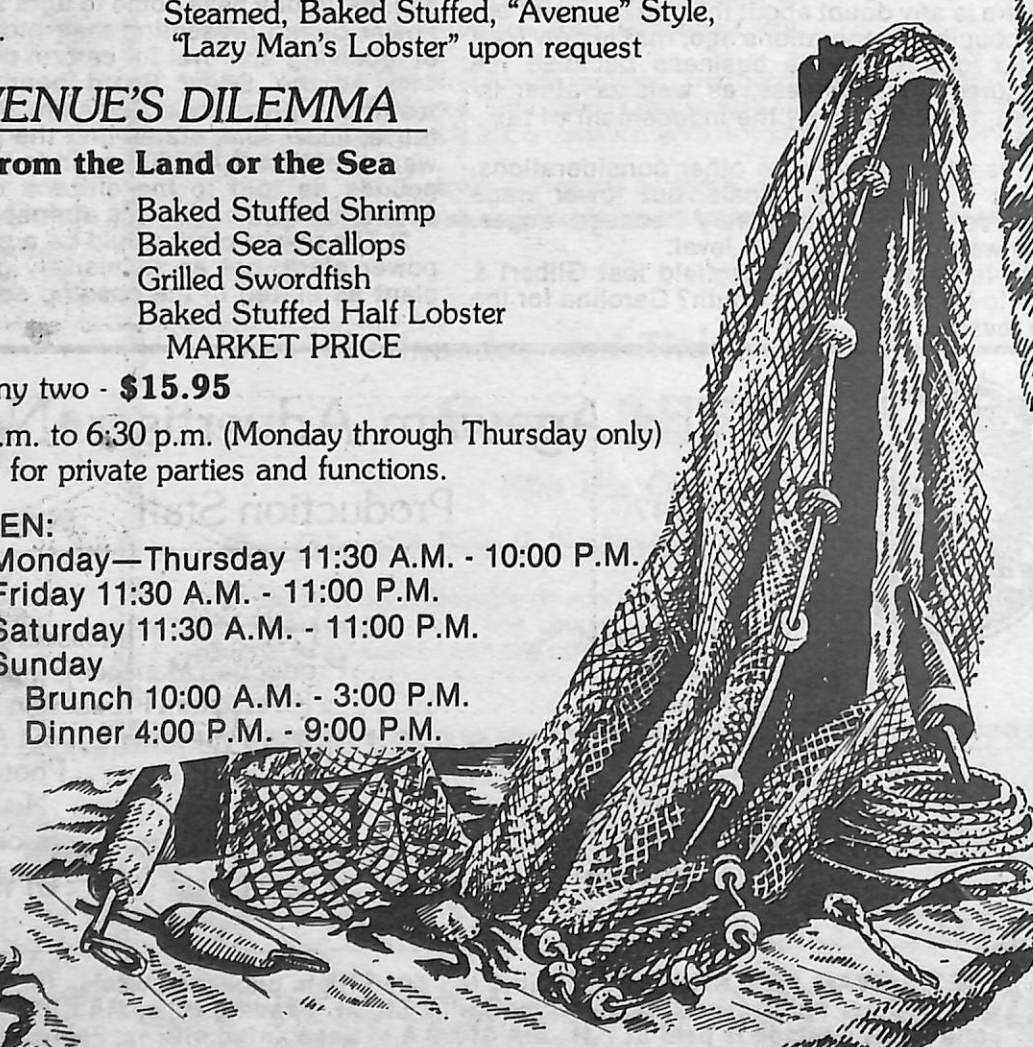
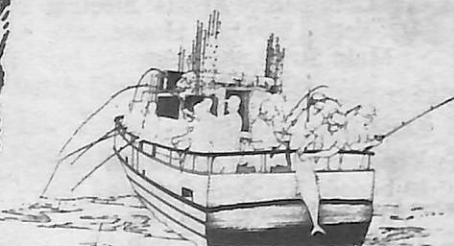
\$5.95 KIDS 12 And Under

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Saturday 11:30 A.M. - 11:00 P.M.
Sunday
Brunch 10:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.
Dinner 4:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.



Commentary...

Town Council's Citizen's Speak Time: Don't Prolong The Agony!!!

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

As a courtesy to the town's residents, Town Council sets aside the first 45 minutes of every regularly scheduled meeting as a public forum for residents to bring their concerns before the council (and via television, before the rest of the town). Too bad that courtesy is being abused by a handful of "regulars" in love with the sound of their own voices.

Citizen Speak Time is a good idea and it works well as a vehicle for citizens to make their ideas known to their legislative body. Under the council's rules, speakers sign up just prior to the meeting, indicating the subject they intend to speak on. Each speaker is allowed five minutes, unless a majority of the council agrees to extend the time limit. That makes sense.

There are times when the council would be remiss in not extending the time to allow for a more complete presentation.

However, the extension provision should be used judiciously and not as a matter of course. The council's ability to extend speakers' time can and does lead to an abuse of the privilege.

Last Monday night's council meeting serves as a textbook example of the abuse of the privilege. When Council President Nancy Thompson pointed out that a speaker's time limit had expired, the admonition was brushed aside with an arrogantly expressed expectation of gaining an extension, should the request be made.

Unfortunately, the speaker was probably correct. Lately, the five-minute limit has become something of a joke among several speakers who regularly appear at the microphone. Town coun-

cilors, reluctant to be accused of trying to shut off public debate, have routinely extended individual speaker's time and the amount of time to be devoted to citizen speak.

The result has been that the actual business meeting of the council occurs later and later. Often, town residents seeking licenses or appointment to various boards and commissions are forced to wait while issues not under consideration on the council's agenda are debated at length—often ad nauseam.

In an effort to be fair to residents wishing for a public airing of their views, the council may be shortchanging the residents who will be directly impacted by the council's decisions. Also, it hardly seems fair that people who are more interested in hearing from their councilors and in seeing what action will be taken on the issues at hand **must be held hostage to the whims of the long-winded.**

Some residents think the solution is to drop the practice altogether, but that seems a little drastic. No councilor would dare suggest or support such a move, no matter how they might secretly wish to.

Three possible solutions come to mind.

The first two would require a show of guts on the part of a council sure to be under the threat of being called undemocratic by the very people who want to monopolize the right to be heard. They don't just want their own five minutes; they want everyone else's, too.

Solution one: Except in rare instances, the council should resist the urge to extend individual time limits or the amount of time that will be given over to citizen speak. When more than 15 speakers have signed up, rather than extending the 45-minute limit on speak time, the council should reduce the amount of time given to each.

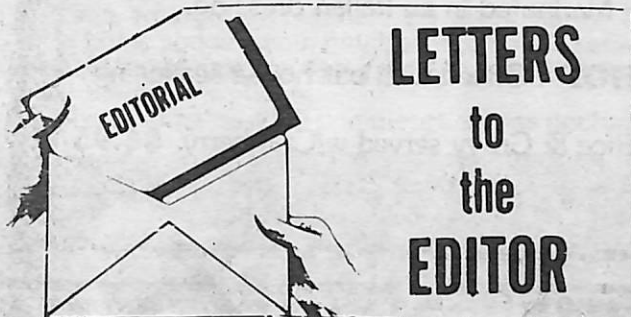
Solution two: The council could choose to restructure the format for Citizen Speak Time so that only subjects on the council's agenda for that meeting could be discussed prior to the start of the meeting.

Just before adjournment, time could be set aside for citizens wishing to address other issues (just as the councilors wait until their business meeting is concluded to discuss any other business).

The **third solution** requires no council action, but relies on the cooperation of the speakers themselves.

Rather than demand more time, speakers could cut the fat and get to the point. Five minutes is long enough to make a point. Also, in the spirit of cooperation, speakers could take note of the number of people wishing to be heard and voluntarily cut out the excess verbiage and political posturing.

Think of that little boy in the soup commercial waiting while his brothers serve themselves first. He's asking them to hurry up and pass the soup pot down to his end of the table. There's a hint of desperation in his voice as he watches the soup disappearing into their bowls, "Don't hog it all!" Good advice.



So-Called Tax Break On Power Plant An Old Custom

To The Editor:

Abe Kasparian has marshalled some figures to "prove" that Berkshire Power is getting a special break by being allowed to pay a sum of money, in lieu of taxes, to the Town of Agawam.

In the first place, this method of paying taxes is nothing new and has been used by every municipality and governing body in this country.

If there is any doubt about this, let me point out that a couple of generations ago, that is how New England lost its textile business because the south lured this business, as well as other industries, to relocated by the inducement of tax breaks.

Granted that there were other considerations, such as a lower wage scale, but lower wage scales are, at best, temporary because wages, just as water, seeks its own level.

More recently, West Springfield lost Gilbert & Barker to North - or was it South? Carolina for the same reason.

Now, we in the United States face the same situation vis a vis other countries, who are luring business by lower taxes - as well as lower wages.

Witness the shoe business and government business which is now disbursed all over the globe.

Shoes are made in Laos and Indonesia. Right now, I'm wearing a shirt (which was a gift) that was manufactured in the Marshall Islands.

The so-called tax break which the opposition is harping on is only an old American custom.

And it is called competition.

Sincerely,
Erwin Werthamer
Agawam

P.S. In Berkshire Power's case, they aren't even looking for a break. In the long run, they will be paying more.

Interesting Statements And Testimony Arise Over BP Issue

To The Editor:

Citizens Of Agawam:

Recently, a number of interesting statements and testimony have come to light since Berkshire Power began presenting their proposals in hope of receiving approval for certain permits.

1) At the Siting Board hearing in Boston, testimony given by a Berkshire Power representative, *under oath*, stated that the BP power plant would release 1,450,000 pounds (not the 916,000 pounds as told to the citizens of Agawam) of pollutants into our town's atmosphere.

2) The power plant would be a gas and oil fired power plant, not an exclusively gas fired power plant as stated in the opening sentence of BP's

mailing brochure. This being the case, Berkshire Power stated at the hearing that when oil is burned instead of gas, there will be a *tenfold* increase in the sulfur dioxide emissions rate.

3) If Berkshire Power comes on line, Agawam's water usage will increase by approximately 55 to 62 percent (not an increase of only four percent as

SEE LETTERS - Page 6...

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Sponsored By
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Monday, April 1st
"Miss Agawam Pageant 1996"
At Chez Josef, Agawam
Talent, 6 p.m.; beauty pageant, 7 p.m.
Tickets (\$5) on sale at the door;
the public is invited to attend

Wednesday, April 3rd
Acawam Community Artists' meeting
At Captain Leonard House,
Main Street, Agawam
7:00 p.m.

Monday, April 8th
"Dinner Dance" to be held
to benefit Katelynn Battista
At Chez Josef, Agawam
Cocktail hour, 6 to 7 p.m.;
Ziti & meatball buffet, 7 p.m.
For tickets, call 736-6896,
739-5125, or 747-9674

Saturday, April 13th
Operation Friendship's
"Mystery Dinner"
At F.H. Congregational
Church, 21 N. Westfield St.
6:30 p.m.
Tickets: \$12.50 each; call 786-0195
or 789-3128 for reservations

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Richard Sardella Publisher & Owner
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Teri Machia Assistant Production Manager
Phil Benoit Typesetter/Layout Assistant
Jack Devine Photographer
Kathy Cassanelli News Editor
Dave Rollins Sports Editor
Peggy Shoemaker Feature Writer

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Entrees Include Soup Or Salad, Vegetable, Rolls And Butter.*

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FREE!! ***

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Required. Not Redeemable In Combination With Any Other Promotion Or Early
Bird Specials.

15% service charge will be added to your bill.

Coupon

Not Valid On Holidays

Wednesday and Thursday Only

Save \$5.00

With This Coupon

On Dinner For 2 Totaling \$20.00 Or More

This coupon is not redeemable on specially priced entrees, lunch menu items, or
early bird specials. Only one coupon per couple, per visit. Coupon is not
redeemable for cash or with any other coupon or special. Applicable taxes paid
by bearer.

**Live Entertainment,
Music, And Dancing
Every Saturday Night**

LETTERS - from Page 4...

stated in BP's mailing brochure).

Is this the best we can do for ourselves and our children? I think not.

There is, and will be, other opportunities to attract businesses and industry to our town—ones that are visually and environmentally friendly. In the recent past, we've worked together as one town when opposing other proposals (jail, casino, tavern in Feeding Hills, etc.) that were not considered in the best interest of Agawam.

Once again, the challenge has been put before us. Hopefully, the call to participate will not fall on deaf ears, for if we let the chance to voice our objections pass us by, we'll only be able to look back and think of what could have been should this plant become reality.

**A concerned citizen,
Denis H. Surprenant
Feeding Hills**

Councilor Bitzas Responds To Request For Some Facts

To The Editor:

I did not want to dignify Mr. Forni's childish response to my letter criticizing him for his unfair and unjust attack against Kathy Cassanelli and *The Agawam Advertiser News*, but I would like to make the facts known in more detail as I was asked by Mr. Forni.

Mr. Forni, if I was wrong in what I wrote, I would be the first to apologize. I stand by what I said against you and the few very vocal people of your group. One thing you don't need or deserve is an apology.

Here are some facts that you asked me for, Mr. Forni, to back up my criticism of you.

In your article in *The Agawam Advertiser News* on March 21, you wrote that you were not criticizing *The Advertiser News* and News Editor Kathy Cassanelli. Mr. Forni, in the March 7th edition of *The Agawam Advertiser News* on page five, you wrote ... "I strongly object to the content of the article in *The Agawam Advertiser News* by Kathy Cassanelli regarding Berkshire Power ... not only do I object to the content of the article, but as president of the CCBA I feel that when Berkshire makes such ridiculous statements and accusations, our group should be allowed the opportunity to respond."

If this is not a criticism by you, Mr. Forni, what is it—a praise or a compliment?

Then you continue to write, "When our group, the CCBA, makes a statement to *The AAN*, this paper has always sought to seek out Berkshire Power and/or the Mayor for a response to put in the article. All we ask is that *The AAN* extend the same courtesy ... why are we not sought out to respond to their statements?"

Is this a compliment to the newspaper, Mr. Forni, or a whining complaint and criticism?

In the next paragraph, Mr. Forni, you wrote, "*The AAN* should have asked Ron Hebert, Ray Gendron, and/or Doreen Prouty, the voting members of the ZBA, if the request Berkshire Power sought in writing was or was not for a special permit."

Is this a compliment or a criticism of the newspaper? Who do you think you are to tell a fine reporter who to ask and how to write his/her articles?

Mr. Forni, you continue to write, "*The AAN* should have indeed asked the members of the ZBA if this statement is in fact accurate." Again, Mr. Forni, is this a praise of *The AAN* or a criticism?

In the next paragraph, you wrote, "*The AAN* can obviously verify the facts and write an article as to who's telling the truth, and who is not." Is it praise a compliment, or criticism? Are you telling me, Mr. Forni, that this newspaper is not doing its job and doesn't seek the truth? Do they need you to tell them how to do their job?

Finally, in the last paragraph, you wrote, "We also requested *The AAN* to, in the future, research and print the truth." Are you telling us, sir, that *The AAN* does not print the truth? Who are you to make such accusations and then whine that you never criticize the newspaper and you like to see the facts and the proof.

These are the facts that you asked for, Mr. Forni. I am tired—and the people of Agawam are tired—of reading the same thing over and over from you during the past year. It is time to stop and let the federal, state, and local agencies decide if Berkshire Power is safe for our environment and our health.

If it is proven it is not in the best interest of our town and our taxpayers, then they should not be allowed to build here. Enough is enough, Mr. Forni; let's give the process a chance to determine the facts.

To *The Agawam Advertiser News*, please continue your good work and service to our community.

**Sincerely,
George Bitzas
Agawam City Councilor**

Concerns Over Integration At Camp Rainbow & Perry Lane

To The Editor:

ATTENTION ALL CAMP RAINBOW AND PERRY LANE CAMP PARENTS:

It has come to our attention that Camp Rainbow and Perry Lane camp will be in an integrated setting for this summer at the Perry Lane location. We have some concerns regarding medical issues for all of these children. The concern being an R.N. is not available for oral medications, inhalers, or any medical emergency that may arise in this outdoor setting.

Has the camp setting made the physical accommodations needed for the challenged children to succeed with a positive experience of

having attended summer camp?

We, the parents of these children attending camp, feel strongly about these concerns. Please relay your concerns to Mayor Johnson, Mary Keller at the Department of Recreation, Mr. White at the Department of Health, and Dr. Brosnan at the Special Services Office.

The following is a letter that we have sent to the aforementioned people.

Dear Mayor Johnson:

We, the parents of special education children and regular education children, have some major concerns regarding the plans for the summer camp integrated program of 1996.

1) Medical—WE are concerned that there will not be a R.N. to administer oral medications, inhalers, or blood sugar issues. Examples: ritalin, allergy medications, seizure medications, or respiratory medications. This is an outside camp setting, in which there is no medical personnel readily available for physical injuries that may occur.

2) Behavioral concerns—How will behavioral issues be addressed with the higher risk children in this type of setting? Examples: A.D.H.D. children, children with language and developmental delays, autism, and emotional disorders. What will the discipline and expulsion policy be for the camp?

3) Outside physical setting and handicapped accessible buildings—Is this physical setting easily accessible for walkers, wheelchairs, and sight impaired children? Are the restrooms physically accessible to all children attending the camp? Are there any indoor accommodations to bring children in out of the elements if medically necessary?

4) Structure—What will be the group size of children to counselor ratio? What type of structured activities will be planned for this summer, and will it be accessible for all children? What training will counselors receive to have this integrated summer program work successfully for all children?

We wish to make summer camp a positive and enjoyable experience for all children no matter what their needs are.

**Sincerely,
Bernadette Waters and Jessica Goehrlert
Both of Agawam**

SEE LETTERS -

continued on Page 7...

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LETTERS - from Page 6...

Country Estates Vice President Testifies On Power Plant

To The Editor:

The following testimony was presented to the Agawam Zoning Board of Appeals on December 7, 1995 by Jonathan Gould, Vice President of Senior Health Management and a Director of Country Estates Skilled Nursing & Rehabilitation Center, located at 1200 Suffield Street in Agawam. Country Estates, a 164-bed facility serving the short-term and long-term medical needs of area residents, opened in July of 1994.

As you may recall, on September 21st, I forwarded a letter to the Board of Appeals expressing our significant concerns relative to the potential impact that the power plant as proposed will have on our business and, most importantly, the residents and their families that are under our care and support. These concerns, which were also presented to Mayor Johnson, the town council and representatives of Berkshire Power, can best be summarized as issues relating to:

- The construction of a 252 megawatt power plant as proposed within 3,000 feet of a health care facility is inappropriate, insensitive, and irresponsible.

- The power plant and particularly several buildings and structures far exceed the height limits currently allowed under the Agawam Zoning By-Laws.

- Beyond the excessive height of the buildings and stack, we remain very concerned that the plume rising from the stack will negatively impact our facility, the immediate neighborhood and the community as a whole.

- Country Estates requested a zoning variance in 1991 to build its facility. To the best of my knowledge, we met every height and setback requirement under the Agawam Zoning By-Laws. In terms of landscaping, we went well beyond your own requirements. Whereas we believe that our facility has enhanced the character of the neighborhood, there is little question that the same cannot be said of this power plant.

While we understood that Country Estates was being built in an Industrial Zone, given the requirements that we were asked to meet as well as the height restrictions of the Zoning By-Laws, we never perceived that it would be possible for this type of power plant to be built as currently proposed.

- The power plant as proposed will have an adverse visual impact on the residents of Country Estates and could seriously effect the value of our business and property. As we have mentioned to the Energy Facilities Siting Board, although it may be possible to screen the administrative buildings and cooling towers, obviously it will not be possible to screen the stack and vapor plumes that will rise from the stack and cooling towers. Although representatives of Berkshire Power have claimed that the Agawam community would only see the plume from the stack on a limited number of days during the year, they have also stated that we would see the vapors rising off the cooling towers virtually every day. I don't believe that this is consistent with the character of the neighborhood.

The concerns that I have just mentioned and specific issues raised by homeowners and businesses in Agawam as they relate to the im-

fact that the power plant will have on lowering property values and other clear violations of the zoning ordinance should be sufficient cause to deny this application. There is another and equally compelling issue that I urge you to consider as you deliberate the request of Berkshire Power; and that issue is the credibility of this organization. Since a central issue in your deliberations should be the impact that this or any other proposal will have on the character of the immediate neighborhood and the community as a whole, then it only goes to reason that as part of the review process, you as town officials, and not a group in Boston, should consider the character of the petitioner.

My concerns initially surfaced in April of this year when I was advised by the owners of Chez Josef that a power plant was being proposed on a site that would impact their business as well as ours. As a new business owner, I was alarmed with not only the news, but also by the fact that our organization had never been advised by Berkshire Power or town officials of this proposal.

While I assume some of the blame for not having been aware of these events, my attention was focused on the enormous task and responsibility associated with the opening of a new nursing and rehabilitation center. My commitment has always been and will always remain to the benefit and welfare of our patients and residents and their families.

I expressed my concerns and disappointment at several council meetings and while some council members apologized, the initial public response from Berkshire Power was, "It slipped through the cracks." However, nothing slipped through the cracks; rather we believe there was a concerted effort to avoid Country Estates. In fact, the owners of Chez Josef shared a report with me, dated February 1995, prepared for Berkshire Power and titled *Preliminary Visual Impact Analysis for Chez Josef*. The report, prepared several months before we had knowledge of the proposed project, makes specific reference to Country Estates. It is clearly apparent that not contacting us was not an act of "slipping through the cracks."

SEE LETTERS - Page 8...

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MEMBER F.D.I.C.



LETTERS - from Page 7...

The references to Country Estates in this report as prepared by Earth Tech are alarming and are absolutely relevant to your deliberations. A copy of the report is attached, but the most important points are as follows:

- Page 1 - To conduct their Visual Assessment, Earth Tech chose three observation locations. Two were located adjacent to Chez Josef and I quote, "The third is located along Suffield Street (Route 75) just south of Adams Street, in front of the Country Estates Rehabilitation Center." The report continues with, "This latter location was chosen due to its sensitivity and potential line of sight between it and the site."

- Page 3 - The third paragraph under the section "Results" can be best described as a mixture of good news and bad news. Referring to someone traveling south on Route 75, the good news was, and I quote, "The most direct views toward the site would be partially obscured by the nursing home building." The bad news, of course, and as clearly displayed in their View Line Graphics as well as their photographs of Country Estates, is that the nursing home would be in a direct line to the stack and plant.

Although our concerns were significant and although it was clear to us that nothing had "slipped through the cracks," at the urging of several local officials, I agreed to meet with representatives of Berkshire Power. Our choices, in fact, quite limited and I suspect that Berkshire Power understood our predicament. On the one hand, fighting the battle in Boston before the highly technical Energy Facilities Siting Board would have been very time consuming, a distraction, and would have cost us an exorbitant amount of money in legal and consulting fees. New nursing and rehabilitation centers operate at significant losses during the first year of opening. We effectively planned for working capital to cover those losses, but there was no way to plan for the additional expense associated with the cost of fighting this project with the powers in Boston.

The other alternative was to determine if there was some way, at the very least, to mitigate the situation from the perspective of Country Estates. We understood that it would never be possible to provide sufficient off-site screening to block the stack, the vapor plumes from the stack, or the vapor plumes from the cooling towers from the site line of Country Estates. But, we felt there were forms of mitigation that would improve the situation for our residents. Recognizing that our main indoor activities area, a resident living room, and an 8,000 square-foot patio are in direct view of the proposed power plant, it was obvious that the only possible way to partially mitigate the situation would be to introduce some significant forms of landscaping and structural screening on our property.

In an earnest attempt to mitigate the situation, what appeared to be productive discussions with representatives of Berkshire Power were held on several occasions. You may call it coincidental or whatever you want, however, their desire to be a good neighbor and their desire to work with us came to a grinding halt as soon as Chez Josef

withdrew their intervenor status from the Energy Facilities Siting Board.

In closing, I ask you to consider the following before reaching your decision on a matter that will not only have a long-term impact on this neighborhood, but obviously on the town as a whole:

- Several structures, but particularly the main generation building and the stack, have a height that are far in excess of those allowed under the provisions of the Agawam Zoning By-Laws.

- Although more specifically addressed by others, the proposal calls for the bulk storage of more than 900,000 gallons of petroleum on site; a violation of the Zoning By-Laws.

- According to Berkshire Power, the vapor plumes from the 167-foot stack "are usually only visible on winter days with very low temperatures." Berkshire Power states that "the plume will appear as a white cloud rising as much as 100 to 250 feet above the top of the stack, and carrying downwind an equal distance before dissipating." **Is this consistent with the character of the neighborhood and the town of Agawam?**

- Although the vapor plumes from the stack "are usually only visible on winter days with very low temperatures" according to Berkshire Power, it is my understanding from their consultants that **the vapors from the cooling towers will be visible virtually every day to the year, regardless of the season or temperature. Is this consistent with the character of the neighborhood and Town of Agawam?**

In good faith, we initiated discussions with representatives of Berkshire Power in an effort to be open-minded and in an effort to seek an acceptable form of off-site and on-site mitigation that would benefit our residents and their families. Berkshire Power chose to abruptly terminate those discussions. They turned their backs on us, but more significantly, they turned their backs on our 160 patients, their families and our staff of more than 200. Is this consistent with the character of an organization that you would want to construct a highly controversial 252 megawatt gas-fired, water cooled power plant, particularly at a time when there is great concern over a softening in environmental controls?

Thank you for your time, patience, and consideration.

Jonathan Gould
Country Estates Skilled Nursing
and Rehabilitation Center
1200 Suffield St.
Agawam

And A Member of the Concerned Citizens
and Businesses of Agawam

Power Plant Opponents Are Worried About The TRUTH

To The Editor:

I would like to reply to a few letters criticizing the "small" group of people that are opposed to the power plant.

That "small" group of people seem to be the **ONLY** group worried about the **TRUTH**. They have over 70 FACTS that are from the records of

Berkshire Power. Berkshire Power has been invited to dispute ANY of the facts listed, but since most of them have been written **BY** Berkshire Power, they cannot.

I am still waiting to see **ONE FACT** from the so-called "huge" amount of supporters. I think the group supporting this plant needs to spend more time looking for the **TRUTH** and less time looking at the head count!

Sincerely,
Andrea Scalise
Feeding Hills

Library Expansion A Must To Meet Town's Needs

To The Editor:

This letter will be stating the obvious. But sometimes we need to be reminded of the obvious, especially when the approval of an important issue depends upon the vote of our city council.

Tuesday morning's *Union News* (March 26th) contains an article regarding the filing of a grant application to assist in the funding for the proposed expansion of our Agawam Library.

Mayor Johnson is quoted as saying that while he supports the project, the council must decide whether the community wants to make the investment. A special meeting called for Wednesday evening, March 27th, for the purposed of viewing proposed drawings should have taken place by the time this letter is published.

Some might question why we need an expensive addition to our library when other municipal projects have also been on the table for years, such as a new DPW facility. Also, the library is not considered a revenue-generating facility. (But does it not generate something of equal or greater value?)

It is unfortunate that we do not have the funds readily available to make all the projects on our "wish list" happen. However, the opportunity to apply for a \$1.75 million grant from the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners should not be passed over.

Agawam is a growing community. (I warned you I'd be stating the obvious.) We are looking at additions to all four of our elementary schools and our high school to be completed in the next few years. Because of zoning laws which have not yet been updated to reflect the wishes of the majority of Agawam citizens, expansion and development have come to Agawam at a sometimes alarming rate.

Although some prefer to think of Agawam as a "small town community" and we are indeed legally "the city known as the Town of Agawam," we are a city. Almost within a stone's throw of the larger city of Springfield.

Speaking of Springfield, it used to be that if you couldn't find something in the Agawam Library, you could drive over to the Springfield City Library on State Street, which inarguably has a vast selection of books. However, Springfield's library

SEE LETTERS - Page 10...

Did Jesus Christ Rise From The Dead?

- The Bible insists that God proved Jesus Christ is the Lord and Savior of mankind by raising him from the dead.
- The Bible claims that Jesus' resurrection was actual, literal and physical; not just a "spiritual" event.
- The Bible asserts that if Jesus Christ was not really raised from death, Christianity is a false religion and Christians are pitiful people.
- On Easter Sunday, April 7th, we will examine the historical evidence of the resurrection of Jesus Christ.
- Was Jesus Christ really raised from the dead or not? The answer to that question has significant and personal ramifications for every man, woman, and child.
- 10:00 A.M. Sunday Morning Worship Service at the VFW Hall, located at 972 Sheldon Road (off Mountain Road - Rt. 168) in Suffield, Connecticut.
- Children's Ministry available during service



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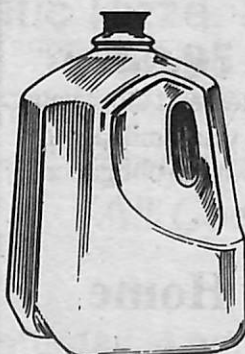
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LETTERS - from Page 8...

system has all but been decimated by budget cuts, resulting in drastically reduced hours of operation.

A friend of mine from Springfield was amazed a few weeks ago to discover that our Agawam library was open to the public at 9:00 a.m. on a weekday. We Agawam citizens probably take this for granted, as we do the many other services provided for us.

I am equally amazed at the friendly, courteous, efficient, and helpful manner of our Agawam librarians. Anyone who uses the library frequently knows what a busy place it is, crowded both with resource materials and people.

You would never guess it by the librarians' service. They always have a ready smile and are more than happy to help a patron find material. They treat the children with respect, making the library experience positive for them.

As stated above, the student population in our city is growing rapidly along with everything else. Let's not cheat them as well as the rest of us out of the opportunity to enhance their reading for learning and pleasure by failing to do all we can to create a library that truly meets the needs of our community.

In closing, librarian Donna Campbell requests that members of the public supporting the proposed library addition send to her letters addressed to the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners. She will submit these letters along with the grant application.

Thank you,
Jackie Nascimbeni
Agawam

Agawam Resident Supports Efforts Of BP Opponents

To The Editor:

In our busy lives, it is easy to let someone else take up a cause while we sit back. I give Ken Forni and CCBA much credit. I support them wholeheartedly.

There are many people in Agawam against this power plant, and I encourage them to speak out, too. We are not going to be heard through the ballot box this time.

Mayor Johnson said that opposing Berkshire Power would send a wrong message to the businesses interested in locating in Agawam. This is not another McDonald's; it will be a \$200 million eyesore.

If this power plant is built, what will be next - maybe a Three Mile Island? This industrial park was originally zoned for "light" industry. If this

power plant is built, a precedent could be set, allowing structures with unlimited height.

If Berkshire Power claims this power plant will not affect its neighbors' property values, why not offer to buy some homes and see if they can resell them at the same value? Let them put their money where their mouths are. They say property values will not be affected; let them prove it!

I am opposed to the construction of a power plant. If the plant is built, it will affect all of Agawam.

Sincerely,
Conrad Morrissey
Agawam

Mayor Johnson Is To Blame For School System's Woes

To The Editor:

Mayor Christopher Johnson has once again tried to rerun a tired old episode from his favorite soap opera ... "It's Not My Fault" or "Blame Someone/Anyone Else But Me!"

Johnson recently pointed his ever-ready finger of blame at Mrs. Sue Dempsey and other vocal parents whom he claims are giving the Agawam School System a bad name. He incorrectly claims that these concerned and involved parents have given our schools such a poor reputation that they have dissuaded some candidates from applying for the superintendent's job.

I hate to be the one to burst the Mayor's bubble, but maybe there is another explanation. First, it should be noted that there are a lot of talented people out there who would love the challenge of turning a troubled school district around, especially for a salary of \$80,000-plus. Perhaps the Mayor should seek the cause of our school system's problems elsewhere.

While parents have been one of the messengers of bad news, they are certainly not the only ones nor are any of these parents the cause of the problems. Similar messages of alarming news have been provided by our SAT scores, our MEAP scores, and in the voice of our High School's acting principal, who is seeking added security forces in his building.

Should we blame the administrators of these tests for our schools' problems? I think not! Should we blame the principals' apparent concern? No! But maybe we should blame the School Committee and its chairman for their inaction in dealing with these problems and their obvious concern for style over substance. This committee

wants us all to look at the school system through rose-colored glasses in the hope that we will not see the growing problems of violence, substance abuse, vandalism, and poor test scores.

The School Committee seems to hope that we will mistake the mediocrity which seems to be rampant in our school system for the excellence that we have a right to expect. It seems to me that the concept of excellence has disappeared from the lexicon of our schools. Those of us with students in the system—those of us who have high hopes and expectations for our children, cannot overlook the obvious and refuse to stand by quietly while our elected representatives continue to "dumb down" our schools.

Since the Mayor insists on playing the "blame game," we should try to find out who is really to blame for the decline in our educational system. Maybe we could blame the Mayor, who seems to have great difficulty separating his role as chair of the School Committee from his role as Mayor. Maybe we could blame this Mayor, who has a reputation for trying to micro-manage every department.

Could it be that his well-deserved reputation could be frightening away highly-qualified but independently minded candidates? Maybe we should also blame those members of the School Committee who owe the Mayor too much to challenge him. A bit of independent thought and action on the board would be a refreshing notion.

Our schools unquestionably have big problems. While neighboring communities may have similar problems, Agawam leaders seem to be alone in their adamant refusal to publicly admit these problems and to take the necessarily bold steps needed to address them.

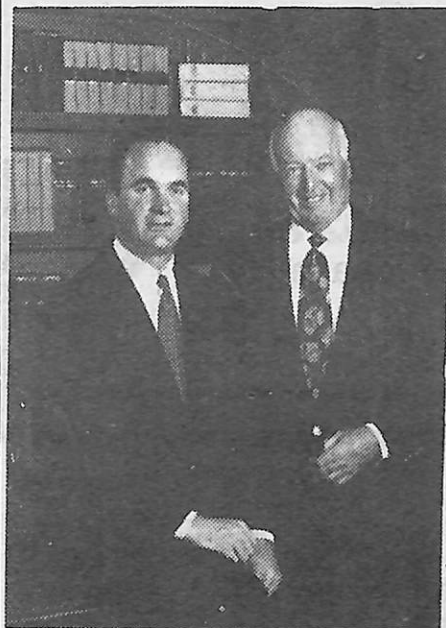
The most recent example of this whitewashing is the ongoing budget charade. The School Committee is about to rubber stamp a budget which the superintendent and members of the School Committee readily admit will not meet the real needs of our children and our schools. At budget hearings and in the press, members freely discuss the fact that the technology, supply, professional development, and staffing accounts are woefully underfunded.

They defend the fact that the athletic budget has been increased by more than \$59,000, but the English and Math Departments' budgets have remained stagnant. Why aren't these School Committee members fighting for more money? Why do they appropriate insufficient funds to cover the true needs of our schools?

SEE LETTERS - Page 11...

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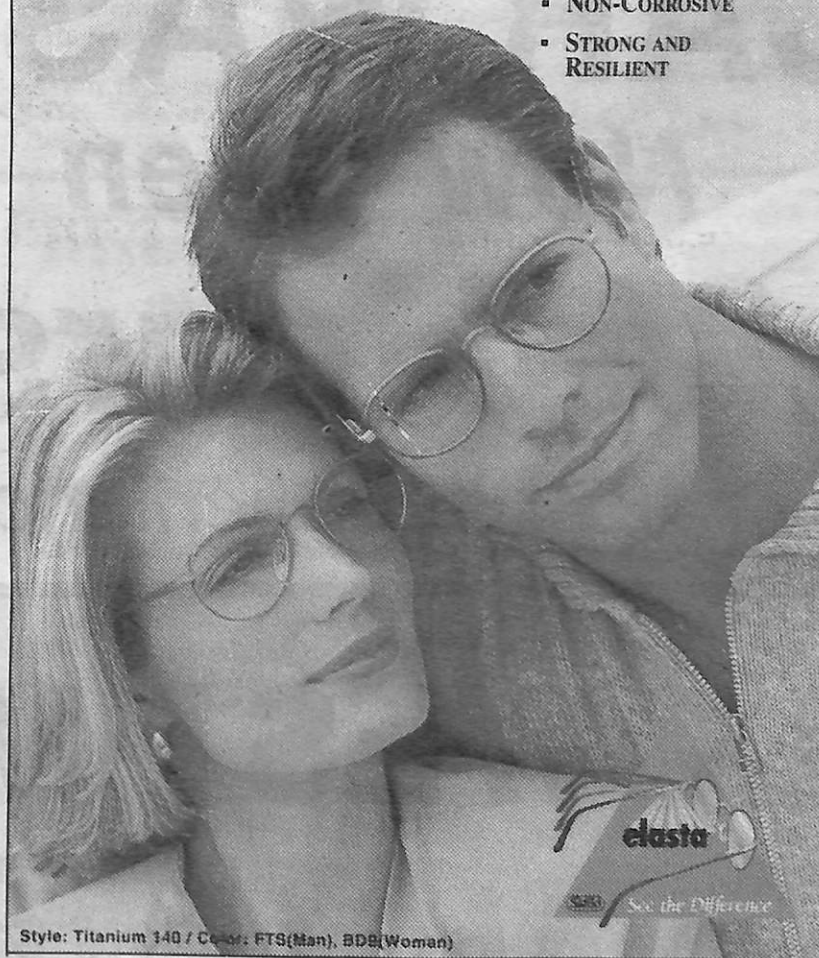
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LETTERS - from Page 10...

Is it not the role of the School Committee to act as advocates for our schools? Isn't it the responsibility of each School Committee member to fight for every possible dollar that they can get for our children's education? Why have they accepted a budget number which is unrealistic and cannot work?

Could it be that the budget numbers were agreed upon before the document was ever made public and that this "budget process" is a mere P.R. game, an effort to save the Mayor from making some hard priority decisions.

Could it be that the School Committee is playing politics here and allowing the Mayor to avoid the unpleasant task of cutting other budgets to improve our schools? Why has the School Committee surrendered without a whimper of discussion or discord? Who is the advocate for our children at these meetings?

The School Committee's cowardice and the Mayor's refusal to make education the number-one priority in Agawam is one of the reasons why our schools have problems. This Mayor can find the funds necessary to put state-of-the-art computers into the Town Hall, but he can't find the money to put them in our classrooms.

He can find the funds necessary to irrigate the golf course, but he can't find the money to fund professional development for our teachers.

The worst part is that our School Committee is standing silently by, allowing it to happen. The Mayor should point the finger of blame at the face in his mirror!

Sincerely,
Frank J. Lawlor
Agawam

Power Plant Issue Reflects Lack Of Interest In Business

To The Editor:

Having attended meetings in support of the Berkshire power plant proposed for the town of Agawam, I have realized the issue at hand is not the power plant itself, but rather our lack of interest in building our community.

Every taxpayer in Agawam now has the opportunity to encourage our elected officials to do everything in their power to bring more business to our town. We must follow the example of our neighboring cities and towns who recognize the necessity of offering incentives to encourage companies to locate in their communities.

Business payments to the community, whether in lieu of taxes or a direct tax percentage, strengthen the tax base and ease the burden on the homeowners. Without such support, the citizens of Agawam will be faced with an unbearable tax rate.

Our approach to building our community must change and become business friendly if we are going to succeed in securing future business in Agawam.

Sincerely,
Katherine McNulty
Concerned Agawam Taxpayer

Violets are blue
Roses are red
What the heck
are those things
on your head?

**Happy 40th,
Emily Crough**



Love,
Diane & Steve

Let's Hope New Bus Contract Will Be An Improvement

To The Editor:

In the next few weeks, a new bus contract will be awarded. The SEALED bids will be opened on April 28th. I truly hope that the SCHOOL BOARD will actually investigate and ask questions THIS TIME from the contractors who submit bids, and not just look at the DOLLAR SIGNS!

You get what you PAY FOR, and in this case it wasn't much!

We have had five years of indifference to the welfare of our children, rudeness to school principals, and frustration to the coaches of sports teams going on trips. A different CONSCIOUSNESS contractor received the sport bid last year — HURRAY!

If you were involved in any of the above occurrences, NOW is the time to come forward and let the School Board be aware of YOUR thoughts. Agawam children deserve better treatment.

A Concerned Parent,
Samuel Seco
Agawam

Talent Of Young Musicians Unbelievable In Agawam

To The Editor:

This past weekend, our family was lucky to be able to attend the outstanding performance of the Western Massachusetts Junior District Music Festival at West Springfield High School. We could not believe that these talented musicians and singers were between the ages of 12 and 15. The high level of skills was UNBELIEVABLE!

This was our son Nathan's first year singing with the Western District Male Chorus. He looks forward to continuing with this positive musical activity.

We, as parents, are very pleased with the music programs and the fine music educators in our Agawam School System.

Steve & Julie Adamski
Feeding Hills

SEE LETTERS - Page 12...

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LETTERS - from Page 11...

Let's Demand Equal Education For All Agawam Students

To The Editor:

Parents, PLEASE call and write all School Committee members and demand EQUALITY for ALL STUDENTS!!!

Do you realize that only \$4,648.00 is spent on educating our children without Special Needs or Vocational Education? It is time for us to fight for a better education for ALL students.

If they can find \$8,777.00 for those students that wish a Vocational Education, then they can find or fight for the money necessary to bring our children's test scores up! Children with Special Needs or in the Collaborative deserve the best education we can provide. Don't all students have that right?

Our daughter's third grade has needed another teacher since she started in Kindergarten. The room and the teacher have been provided, but the necessary tools have not. We ask why?

Our son is in Independent Math. His teacher is doing his best to provide him with challenging work, but he is teaching himself. We work with him every night, but we are not Math teachers.

There should be someone to help teach all students in this situation. Why don't we encourage these students to use their minds to their fullest potential? Imagine what our future could be if we taught them correctly now!

We have talked to many parents who feel the same as we do. We urge all of you to write to our Mayor, School Committee, and Town Council, and hold them responsible for our children's education.

We never lowered our standards on our children's education—who gave them the right to? Our teachers need our support and help; show them we care.

"A MIND IS A SAD THING TO WASTE."

Todd & Cathy Peetros
Agawam

Agawam Receives \$85,579 In Funds To Help With Snow Removal Budget

The State House of Representatives, together with the State Senate, has enacted the Supplemental Budget for Fiscal Year 1996, which includes funding to the Commonwealth's cities and towns for snow and ice removal, announced Representative Daniel F. Keenan. The bill awaits the Governor's signature, and Governor Weld has indicated publicly that he will sign the bill.

The towns of the Third Hampden District may expect the following amounts: **Agawam, \$85,579; Blandford, \$16,386; Granville, \$17,709; Russell, \$9,345; Southwick, \$32,282; and Tolland, \$9,339.**

"These funds are necessary to provide relief to

Home Adjustment Counselor Receives High Praise

To The Editor:

Though I've said it many times over the past two years, I'll say it again, because it bears repeating.

We have some wonderfully dedicated individuals working at Benjamin Phelps School. Thank you to Mr. Farrell for your patience, not to mention your strength! Thank you to the DLC teacher and assistants in Room 11 for your compassion and support.

Last, but **never** least, thank you many times over to Home Adjustment Councilor Ms. Darlene Woolson. She embraces each of her "kids" with such care and understanding. She encounters many children and many situations day-in and day-out, yet she always makes each child feel unique!

For whatever reasons, some which are beyond their control, these children are sent to Ms. Woolson for guidance and enrichment, and she **never** lets them down, as others may have done along the way.

Ms. Woolson tells them they are special and that they are loved. A child can never hear those words enough! So, thank you Ms. Woolson, for reminding me of how lucky my son is to be in your company one hour a week.

Fondly,
Debra S. Curtis
Agawam

Police, Fire, & EMTs Thanked For Helping Boy

To The Editor:

Recently, my son required assistance from the following town departments: police, fire, and EMT. It is with immense appreciation that I write this letter.

Sometimes intervention is necessary when a loved one is in distress and I know I can always count on the professionalism of the above mentioned employees.

I thank you all for all that you do to keep Agawam safe and well.

Sincerely,
Debra S. Curtis
Agawam

State Treasurer Wants To Return Money To Local Taxpayers

State Treasurer Joe Malone announced that the Treasurer's Office has compiled a list of individuals and organizations who have money waiting for them under the Commonwealth's abandoned property law.

This list will be published in daily and weekly newspapers throughout the state during the week of March 25, 1996 and April 1, 1996.

"This year, over \$85 million has been turned over to my office as unclaimed property," Malone said. "I urge every citizen to check the abandoned property listing because we are eager to return all of this money to its rightful owners."

Under Massachusetts' abandoned property law, accounts which have been inactive for more than three years are declared abandoned and turned over to the Treasurer's Office for safekeeping. Unclaimed property consists of any financial asset that has not had any owner-generated activity for an extended period of time. This includes savings accounts, checking accounts, unpaid wages or commissions, stocks, underlying shares, uncashed dividends, customer deposit or overpayments, certificates of deposit, credit balances, refunds, money orders, paid-up life insurance policies, and uncashed benefit checks.

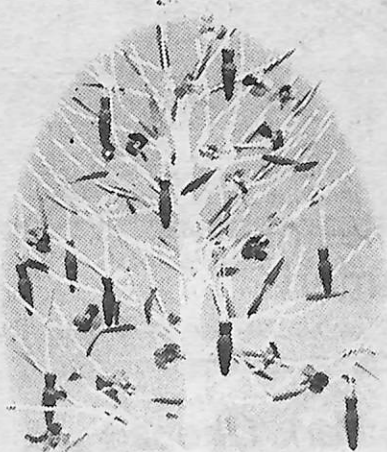
In accordance with Massachusetts' Unclaimed Property Act, property becomes "unclaimed" when there is no owner-generated activity on a financial asset for a three-year period, 15 years in the case of travelers checks. Under the law, the "holders" (banks, insurance companies, businesses, etc.) must make a determined effort to locate the true owner. If they are unsuccessful, they are to report the names and last known addresses of the owners to the Treasurer's Office, where additional efforts are made to locate the owners. Their money is then deposited in the General Fund. There is no time limit on claiming abandoned property. Owners and their heirs need not pay a finder's fee to anyone to claim what rightfully belongs to them. All funds accrue interest until claimed.

Anyone who sees their name on the unclaimed property list may call the Treasurer's Office at (617) 367-0400, Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., or write to: State Treasury, Unclaimed Property Division, One Ashburton Place, 12th Floor, Boston, Massachusetts 02108.

When writing or calling, respondents should give the name as it appears on the list, plus current address, address three years ago, social security number, and daytime telephone number.

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"Please help me return \$85 million to the people of Massachusetts."

Joe Malone
Treasurer and Receiver-General,
Commonwealth of Massachusetts



Under the Massachusetts abandoned property law, accounts which have been inactive for three or more years are declared abandoned property and turned over to the State Treasury for safekeeping. At the Treasurer's office, additional efforts are made, such as this notice, to locate property owners who never lose their right to claim what is legally theirs. Owners or their heirs need not pay a finder's fee to anyone. If you see your name or wish to make a general inquiry, please call my office at 617-367-0400 or write to: Treasurer's Office, Unclaimed Property Department, One Ashburton Place, 12th Floor, Boston, MA 02108.

When writing or calling, please give your name as it appears on this list, plus your current address, your address three years ago, your social security number, and a daytime telephone number. We are here to help you Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.



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LIQUORI, IRENE

MARSH, AMANDA K.
TITMARSH, WALTER
OS, BENJAMIN A.
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PEREZ, CARMEN M.
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ROSE, MARILYN
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School Committee Members Criticize Hike In Athletic Budget But Keep It Intact

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

Put to rest during last year's school budget deliberations, the specter of athletic fees rose at the School Committee's budget workshop held on Monday, March 25th.

School Committee members criticized a \$59,000 increase in the athletic budget while funding is needed in the areas of computers and the basic academic subjects.

Associate Superintendent Donald Charest said the increase was equal to the amount cut from the athletics budget last year and would bring the department back to where it had been two years ago. Charest said the Athletic Department made up the difference in funding through fundraisers.

At the recommendation of Superintendent Bernard F. Ryder, the School Committee left the athletic budget intact, but redistributed just under \$6,400 in funding requests by eliminating funding for all field trips, supplies and services at the Early Childhood Center, and cheerleaders' uniforms.

The bulk of the money, \$4,000, was transferred to the Junior High School library account at the urging of Committee member Linda Galarneau to be used for software enhancement. The remainder of the money was transferred to the reserve account.

Ryder urged the School Committee to approve the budget as submitted and to make any changes after negotiations with the teachers' union dealing with the requirements of the state's time and learning policy were completed.

Ryder said if he had to increase the school day by a half hour, he would go to the athletic budget for the funding before tapping textbook or supply accounts and before going to the Town Council for additional funding.

The Committee cut all funding from the School Department for supplies and services at the Early Childhood Center (ECC) and suggested that the \$2,100 requested could come out of the tuition money paid by the peer partners.

Committee member Rosemary Sandlin asked for a report on the sliding fee scale, including the

Please remember our deadline is at noontime on Tuesday. Thanks.

number of children at each of the three rates. After the fee scales have been analyzed, Mrs. Sandlin suggested a discussion of an increase in the tuition be placed on the committee's agenda in May.

The ECC budget was approved at \$158,976.

Meeting Computer Course Requirements...

Charest said the main focus of the spending on computer supplies and software would be to outfit two classrooms with computers to meet the requirements for the incoming ninth graders who are mandated to take a computer course. Additional new computer equipment includes a scanner for the High School guidance office and some computers for the Business Department.

The computer budget was approved at \$308,208.

Middle School Principal Ralph Zavarella said his request for textbooks was down \$7,000 because he wanted to be sure new textbooks would meet the requirements of the curriculum frameworks being written by the state.

"We're not quite ready yet, but I can assure we will be for next year," Zavarella said. "It's not that we don't need new books—we do."

Zavarella explained a jump in library supplies from \$1,000 to \$5,300 as the cost of enhancing the school library's software to make it more compatible with the town library.

"We want to train the children to use the town library," Zavarella said.

Charest said the increase in science supplies at the Junior High School (from \$1,291 to \$5,792) was the result of the Science Department having been undersupplied for several years and the need to purchase supplies to meet the curriculum frameworks.

Other increases at the Junior High included \$2,000 for library books, \$2,346 for music textbooks, and increases of about \$700 in the audio visual account and the band supplies account.

Junior High Principal Kevin Littlefield said approximately \$17,000 would be spent for Social

Studies textbooks.

Acting AHS Principal Joseph Zabielski said \$60,000 of the \$128,000 increase in the High School's supply account covered items that formerly made up the school's budget. The remainder of the increase covers supplies and services for physical education, music, and guidance, which used to have their own cost centers.

Math Academic Coordinator Lorraine Alves said she was holding off on investing in textbooks that might not meet the curriculum frameworks, but predicted requesting a substantial expenditure on textbooks next year to meet the new standards.

The academic coordinators in both social studies and art defended their requests for field trip money as being essential to their programs. But, the School Committee voted 4-2 in favor of cutting back those funds to save \$950. Dissenting were members Teresa Kozloski and Roberta Doering.

Music Department Academic Coordinator Tamara Watson said she was requesting a reinstatement of \$4,400 in transportation funding that was cut from last year's budget. Miss Watson said the band parents organization covered \$9,000 in transportation costs for the fall season alone.

"I have a problem asking the band parents for transportation next year," Miss Watson said. "We have 41 incoming freshmen, and we will need 30 new band uniforms at a cost of \$10,000. The band parents are willing to fund the new uniforms."

Even though no new personnel have been added to the High School budget, Zabielski said he had a high priority for an additional English teacher to cover the five new sections that will be needed for freshmen and sophomore classes.

The School Committee gave tentative approval for an overall budget of \$18,673,193. For the Middle School, Junior High, and High School, the amounts approved were \$1,551,563, \$2,225,192, and \$3,981,555, respectively.

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Agawam Obituaries

Salvatore Marzano

Salvatore Marzano, 66, of 422 Cooper Street, Agawam, died at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

He was the founder and 35-year owner-operator of UBU Hair Design on Cooper Street, formerly known as Sal's Beauty Salon.

Born in East Longmeadow, he was a 32-year Springfield resident and a longtime resident of Agawam.

He was an Army veteran of the Korean War, a communicant of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, and a member of the Encore Players and the Agawam Repertory Theater Players.

He leaves his wife of 43 years, the former Carmela Fragomeni; five daughters, Mary Ann Marzano and Josephine A. Smith of Agawam, Linda A. Marzano of Miami, Florida, Carmela A. Kirk of Feeding Hills, and Elizabeth A. Marzano at home; eight grandchildren, and a great-granddaughter.

The funeral was held at Tazzini Funeral Home and the church, with burial at St. Michael's Cemetery in Springfield.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Mount Carmel School endowment fund at 123 William Street, Springfield, MA 01105.

Rachel Tilden

Rachel (Smith) Tilden, 74, of 79 Pleasant Street, East Longmeadow, a homemaker, died in Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

Born in Lyndon, Vermont, she lived in East Longmeadow since 1954. She was a graduate of Bay Path College.

Her husbands, David L. Tilden, predeceased her in 1957.

She is survived by four sons, Bruce D. Tilden of Feeding Hills, Peter J. Tilden of Agawam, Rev. Jeffery W. Tilden of Clayton, New Jersey, and Michael J. Tilden of East Longmeadow; a sister, Floy Marcotte of St. Johnsbury, Vermont; and six grandchildren.

A memorial service was held Thursday afternoon, March 28th, in Agawam Congregational Church. Colonial Funeral Home of Agawam was in charge of the arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Agawam Congregational Church, 754 Main Street, Agawam, MA 01001, or Baystate Medical Center West 3, Wesson Palliative Care Unit, 140 High Street, Springfield, MA 01105.

Raymond J. Gosselin

Raymond J. Gosselin, 85, formerly of 82 Pheasant Hill Drive, Feeding Hills, died in a local nursing home.

He was a nine-year employee for the Springfield School Department. Previously, he was a 31-year salesman for the former General Baking Company of Springfield.

He was born in Berry, Vermont, and was a longtime resident of Springfield prior to moving to Feeding Hills in 1979.

He was a communicant of Sacred Heart Church. He was a member and former president of the Pheasant Hill Social Club.

He also belonged to the Teamster Union Local 404.

He leaves his wife of 61 years, the former Beatrice A. Geoffrion; two sons, Ronald R. of Agawam and Gary V. of Springfield; four daughters, Rhea E. Duprat, Joan P. Mazzetti, and Elaine B. Moore, all of Springfield, and Gail M. Britton of Moosup, Connecticut; 17 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren.

A memorial Mass was held in the church, with burial in St. Michael Cemetery in Springfield. Colonial Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of Pioneer Valley, 50 Maple Street, Springfield, MA 01102.

David P. Connor

David Peter Connor, 61, of 17A Mansion Woods, Agawam and 699 NW 15th Court, Boca Raton, Florida, a 32-year trial lawyer in the Hampden, Hampshire, and Berkshire County courts, died in his Agawam home.

He began his career in 1964 as an associate with Attorney Herbert Murphy. He was a partner in the Matroni, DiMauro, and Connor law firm for 17 years, and at the time of his death was a 12-year senior partner in the firm of Connor, Richard and Weisser.

He served as counsel to Hampden County Commissioners from 1980-82 and was prosecutor for the town of Longmeadow from 1974-78. He belonged to the American Arbitration Association since 1967.

Born in Holyoke, he graduated from Holyoke High School, Holyoke Community College, and American International College in Springfield. He earned his law degree at Springfield's Western New England College and was admitted to the Massachusetts Bar in 1964. He was also admitted to practice in the state's Federal District Court in 1965 and the United States Supreme Court in 1971.

He was an Army veteran of the Korean War. He was a communicant of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church. He was a former member and governor of Twin Hills Country Club in Longmeadow and belonged to the Westfield Sportsman Club.

He leaves his wife, the former Shirley N. Lombardi; two sons, David P. Connor Jr. of Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, and John P. Connor of Hadley; three daughters, Susan Connor of Yar-

mouth, Maine, Sharon Connor of West Springfield, and Christine Connor of Lahaina, Hawaii; a stepson, James C. Sullivan, and two stepdaughters, Deborah S. Capeless and Leslie J. Sullivan, all of Pittsfield; a brother, Thomas C. of Boston; a sister, Nancy Connors of Cotuit; four grandchildren, and seven step-grandchildren.

The funeral was at Barry J. Farrell Funeral Home in Holyoke and in Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church in Springfield, with burial in St. Joseph's Cemetery in Pittsfield.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Francis Chapel, care of Dery Funeral Home, 54 Bradford St., Pittsfield, 01201, which was in charge of arrangements.

Harry F. Gillis

Harry F. Gillis, 69, of 74 Springfield St., Agawam, died at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

He worked at Sullivan Paper Co. in West Springfield for 20 years, and retired in 1992. Born in Maine, he lived in North Adams and West Springfield before moving here 12 years ago.

He leaves his wife, the former Pearl M. White; two sons, Alan of Chicopee, and Butch of Columbus, Ohio; a stepdaughter, Marie Lenard of Graniteville, Vermont, and two grandchildren.

The funeral was at Toomey-O'Brien Funeral Home of West Springfield, with burial in Springfield Street Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Arthritis Foundation, 29 Crafts St., Newton, 02158-1287.

Inez M. Govoni

Inez M. Govoni, 88, of 15 Ralph Street, Feeding Hills, a 15-year employee of the former Asinof Manufacturing Co. in Chicopee, died recently in a local nursing home.

Born in Springfield, she spent most of her life in Feeding Hills. She was a communicant of Sacred Heart Church in Feeding Hills, a member of its Rosary Altar Society, and a parish bingo volunteer. She belonged to Golden Agers Club Chapter 2.

She leaves three nephews, Richard C. Morassi of Feeding Hills, Robert Ardizzone of Holland, and Frank Deloria of Rutland, Vermont; two nieces, Theresa Augusti of Feeding Hills and Lenore Flanagan of Springfield; and grandnieces and grandnephews.

The funeral was held at Colonial Funeral Home and the church, with burial at St. Michael's Cemetery in Springfield.

Memorial contributions may be made to the church at 1103 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA 01030.

PLEASE REMEMBER that Jack Devine needs at least 48 hours notice to cover your event.

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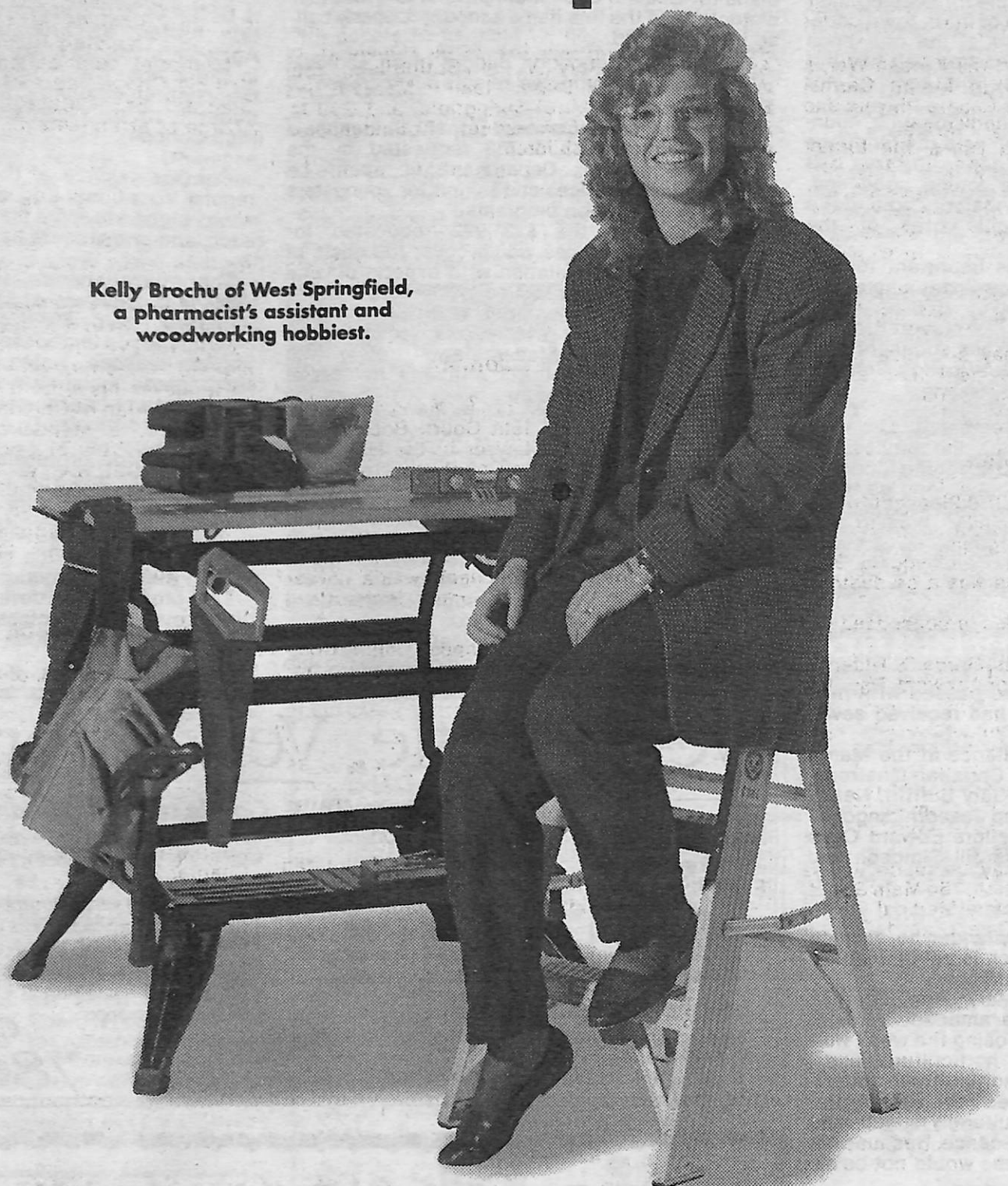


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Another thing I learned as a child is how to save for my future. Every week, my three sisters and I went to Hampden Savings to deposit a dollar into each of our savings accounts. I was five when I started and bought my first bike with my own savings, and

later my first car.

I've known people at the bank so long, they're almost like family. Forget about those lobby ropes other banks have! And I get an extra month's interest in November, just for saving there. My whole family still banks at Hampden, and now my husband Paul does, too.

I thank my parents for teaching me to work with my head and my hands. You can't choose family, but you can choose your bank. I'm lucky both of mine are great."

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Council Needs Again To Vote On Tree Belt Portion Of Ordinance

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

Two weeks after approving an ordinance making property owners responsible for keeping their tree belts mowed and cleared of litter, town councilors were told that the part of the ordinance dealing with the definition of a tree belt had not received a two-thirds majority vote and had not passed.

At the March 18th Town Council meeting, council president Nancy Thompson said the language inserted in the ordinance to define the tree belt constituted a change in the zoning code and, therefore, required not just a majority vote, but a two-thirds majority or eight votes of the 11-member council.

Ms. Thompson said it was important for the public to understand that the ordinance had been passed and that section dealing with the definition of the tree belt would be resubmitted by Councilor George Bitzas, who had sponsored the measure on behalf of the Beautification Committee.

Director of Planning and Community Development Deborah S. Dachos said the process of passing an amendment to the zoning code to define the tree belt could take as long as three months, but enforcement of the ordinance will not be affected by the lack of a definition.

"There shouldn't be any controversy," Ms. Dachos said. "The meat of the ordinance has already passed. We don't really need the definition. There are a lot of words in the zoning code that are not defined and yet we enforce the zoning code. This is just housekeeping."

Ms. Thompson said the first and second readings of the ordinance had passed with nine votes, but the third reading had received seven votes.

Voting in favor of the ordinance at the March 6th meeting were Councilors Christian Quatrone, Kent Servis, David Skolnick, Gary Suffriti, Nancy Thompson, George Bitzas, and Joseph Langone.

Voting against were Councilors Edward Caba and Dennis Perry. Councilors Jill Simpson and Thomas Ennis were absent.

The ordinance had been amended to exclude agriculturally zoned land which is being used for agricultural or horticultural purposes.

However, local farmer Mary Ann Czerpak criticized the wording of the amended version. Mrs. Czerpak said that by choosing the weak wording "agricultural use" or "horticultural use," rather than agricultural or horticultural "operation," thousands of acres of residential developments built on agriculturally zoned land would be exempt from the ordinance. Because her farm was zoned residential, she would not be exempt from the ordinance.

Enforcement of the ordinance will be the responsibility of the building inspector and the health agent if unsanitary conditions exist. Violators face fines of up to \$100.

In 1995, Agawam was awarded a \$5,000 Urban Forest Planning Grant from the state in part because the grant proposal included a pledge to petition the council for an ordinance similar to the tree belt ordinance, according to the Beautification Committee.

John Zebryk of the Beautification Committee said the ordinance would give the town the leverage to deal with the fraction of one percent of people who ignore their tree belts and create an eyesore.

Special Education Budget Increase Of \$361,596 OK'd By Committee

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

At a March 19th workshop meeting, the School Committee gave tentative approval to spending plans for Special Education, programs with other districts, and the line items account formerly called undistributed.

The Special Education Budget given approval by the School Committee reflects an increase of \$361,596.

Associate Superintendent Donald Charest said the bulk of the \$3,765,733 requested by the Special Education Department is spent on psychological services and tuition for youngsters in Special Education programs.

Charest said the \$221,992 requested for psychological services would cover the costs of any testing or consultation with experts outside the school system required by a student's Individual Education Plan (IEP), as well as the cost of any independent evaluations requested by parents as allowed by federal law.

The cost of sending 23 students to special schools within the state is expected to be \$612,414, but that figure could change as students move in or out of Agawam, Charest said.

For students attending private schools in Connecticut, the tuition is expected to be \$191,834, a jump of nearly \$100,000. Charest said that figure is based on the six students the School Department now knows about.

For the 19 to 20 students who are expected to attend Special Education programs through the Lower Pioneer Valley Educational Collaborative (LPVEC), tuition will be \$425,000.

Charest said the Special Education budget was by far the most difficult to predict due to the

uncertainty of the number of disabled students who may enroll during the school year.

Of the \$470,558 approved for Vocational Education tuition, \$233,795 represents 46 slots for Agawam students at the LPVEC Voc-Tech Center in Chicopee. The remaining \$246,763 will cover the cost of sending 31 students in grades 10 through 12 to Westfield Vocational Technical High School.

Charest said 22 of those students are in the regular Vocational Ed Program at a cost of \$7,315 each; eight students have IEP's costing \$9,405 each, and one student has an IEP costing \$10,593.

The miscellaneous account known as line items was approved at \$1,098,585.

Charest said \$94,825 would be spent on heterogeneous textbooks for ninth and 10th grade English classes, heterogeneous textbooks for eighth grade social studies classes, and books for the literature-based reading program at the elementary schools.

Funding for professional development went from \$35,000 this year to \$50,000 for next year. Charest called the request "woefully inadequate."

"We don't think it's nearly enough, but it's a step in the right direction," Charest said.

The professional development money will be turned over to the professional development committee for distribution among the schools, Charest said.

Very gentle. Very affordable.



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Stephen Jacaparo, DMD

Member: Agawam Board of Health

Former Professor: STCC

Former Clinical Consultant: STCC

Stephen Jacaparo, DMD

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Town Seeks Funds For Riverwalk & Bikeway

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

At its March 18th meeting, Town Councilors gave the go ahead for Mayor Christopher C. Johnson to apply for grant funds for the completion of a riverwalk and bikeway along a portion of River Road, School Street, and Main Street.

Support for the grant application was unanimous among the nine councilors present at the time the vote was taken. Councilor Thomas Ennis left the meeting early, and Councilor Kent Servis was absent due to a work commitment.

Before the vote was taken, the council listened to several town residents express their opinions, both pro and con, on the proposed Riverwalk and Bikeway that will link Agawam, Chicopee, Longmeadow, Springfield, and West Springfield, if completed.

Residents along the proposed bikeway complained that no informational meetings had been held to discuss possible impacts of the path with the people who will be most affected. Also, residents said they feared increased crime, litter, vandalism, and the loss of privacy for the people living along the route.

Christopher Curtis of the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, who is the project manager, said he welcomed public comments and fully intended to address all concerns. Curtis said information gathered from other areas of the country where bikeways have been constructed indicated that vandalism was virtually nonexistent, and property

values rose as a result of the bike trail.

Agawam Director of Planning and Development Deborah S. Dachos, who also serves on the Connecticut Riverwalk Committee, said there would be a series of public meetings once a more detailed plan could be made of the proposed bikeway.

"We decided it would be better to have a plan for people to respond to, and we'd like to have something a little more specific (than a sketch at the meeting) when we discuss it with people," Ms. Dachos said.

Curtis said there would be public hearings and a walk along the proposed site before going ahead with any design.

Funding Used To Hire A Consultant

Ms. Dachos said funding from the 1995 round of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA) had been used to hire a consultant to survey the route in order that a detailed

plan could be prepared. However, the severity of the winter prevented the survey from being completed as early as the commission had hoped, thereby delaying the preparation of the plan.

Ms. Dachos said the Agawam portion of the bikeway would cost \$871,000 and would require 10 percent in matching funds from the town, if the application for ISTEA funds is successful. The bikeway loop through Agawam is approximately 5.2 miles in length.

Ms. Dachos said it is not known whether ISTEA funds will be available after this round of funding.

In a letter of support for the project, Historical Commission Chairman David Cecchi states, "A bikeway through the proposed historical district will be a great benefit to citizens and visitors alike ... The best way to enjoy the historic homes and appreciate the architectural detail is on foot or bike ..."

CCBA Promises To Continue Fight Vs. Berkshire Power

Although the abutters were not granted intervenor status at this stage of the proceedings, the CCBA's fight against the proposed power plant is far from over.

The CCBA and the abutters will be ready to file suit as "aggrieved parties" should a decision be rendered that allows the plant to be constructed. The CCBA has already contacted various appraisers, land use planners, and other experts to be ready to participate in full if the abutters become "aggrieved parties."

If a decision is ultimately rendered in favor of Berkshire Power after the August 5, 1996 trial date, any action taken by the CCBA will delay the project indefinitely.

At this stage, the CCBA and the citizens of Agawam must rely on the skills of Attorney Sclafani to defend the Board's decision. The CCBA strongly objects to Attorney Sclafani's agreement with Berkshire Power not to seek discovery throughout the trial process.

For more information, please contact Ken Forini, President and Spokesperson for the CCBA at 733-0867 or 789-2709.

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Our Own Southgate Gin Or Vodka 1.75 Ltr. \$9.99	Gallo Livingston Cellars 1.5 Ltr. \$4.99	New Miller Beer 12 Pk. Btls. \$7.99 Plus Dep.	Genessee Cream Ale 30 Pks. \$10.99 Plus Dep.
Clan MacGregor Scotch 1.75 Ltr. \$15.99	Heineken Or Amstel 12 Pk. Btls. \$10.99 Plus Dep.	Canadian Mist 1.75 Ltr. \$11.99 * * After Rebate	St. Pauli Girl 12 Pk. Btls. \$10.99 Plus Dep.

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The March Madness Grand Opening S

All Prices Effective Thru T

Feeding Hills Public Market

634 Springfield Street
786-0772

Grand Opening Specials

(Feeding Hills Public Market Only)

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Land O' Lakes Cheese	\$1.99 Lb.
Imported Ham	\$2.89 Lb.
Genoa Salami	\$2.99 Lb.
Capless Gold Label Roast Beef	\$3.99 Lb.
Extra Lean Corned Beef	\$2.99 Lb.
Oven Baked Turkey	\$3.39 Lb.
Extra Lean Pastrami	\$2.99 Lb.
Slicing Pepperoni	\$2.99 Lb.
Wunderbar Bologna	\$1.09 Lb.



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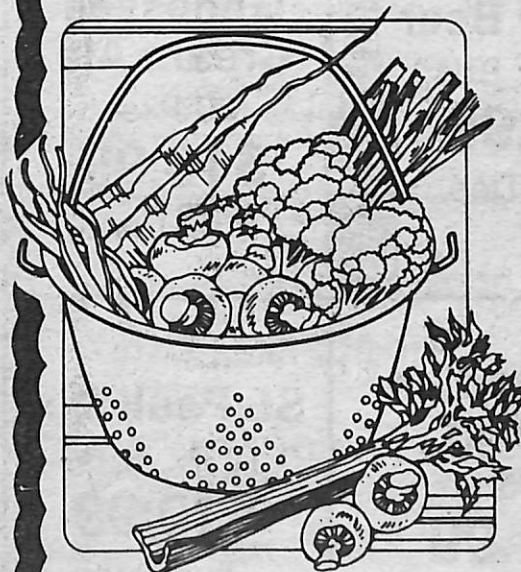
Best Homemade Salads In Town

Potato - Macaroni - Seafood - Chicken - Tuna - Ham - Egg

(Feeding Hills Public Market Only)

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Iceburg Lettuce	79¢ Hd.
Seedless Grapes	59¢ Lb.
Russet Potatoes (5 Lb. Bag)	\$1.49
Grapefruit	4 for \$1.00
Cabbage	39¢ Lb.
Red & Golden Delicious Apples	49¢ Lb.
Broccoli (Bunch)	89¢ Lb.
Green Peppers	59¢ Lb.
Bananas	49¢ Lb.
Barlette Pears	5 for \$1.00



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Kraft Macaro
Variety Of Du
Parson Pine
Tilex Mildew

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Fresh Ground Chuck \$1.5
Chicken Breast, Grade "
(Whole Or Split) ..
Boneless Chicken ..
Porterhouse Steak ..
N.Y. Sirloin ..
T. Bone Steak ..
Beef Round Cube Steak
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Delmonico Steaks ..
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Special Starts Saturday, March 30th

Thursday, April 4th

(Feeding Hills Public Market Only)

March Madness Sale Items

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 Pop (22 Oz.) \$1.79
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 Squeezeez 2 for 99¢
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 Ardson Carmel Topping 99¢
 Taroni & Cheese 99¢
 Durkee Seasoning 4 for 99¢
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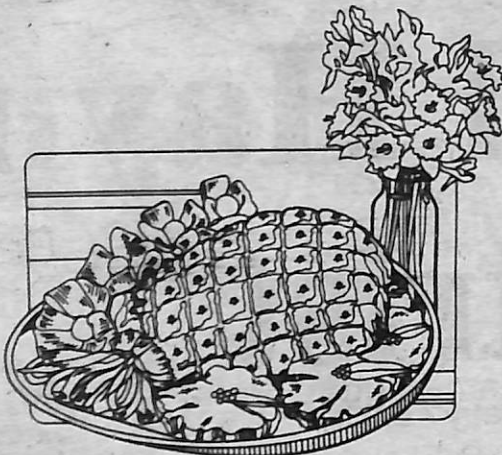
Soft Scrub (26 Oz.) \$1.99
 S.O.S. Oven Cleaner Pads 2 For 99¢
 Clorox Stain Out (1 Qt.) \$1.99
 Pine Sol (15 Oz.) 99¢
 409 Cleaner (22 Oz.) \$1.99
 Coke (2 Liter) 89¢ (Plus Deposit)
 1% Milk (Gallon) \$1.99
 Arizona Ice Tea (26 Oz.) 2 for 99¢
 Pioneer Ice Cream (1/2 Gallon) \$2.59
 Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream (Pts.) \$2.49
 Eggs (Jumbo White) 89¢

(Buy Your Eggs Early To Color For The Easter Bunny)



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 Oven Baked Turkey \$3.39 Lb.
 Extra Lean Pastrami \$2.99 Lb.
 Slicing Pepperoni \$2.99 Lb.
 Wunderbar Bologna \$1.09 Lb.

Coke (2 Liter) 89¢ (Plus Deposit)
 1% Milk (Gallon) \$1.99
 Eggs (Jumbo White) 89¢

(Buy Early To Color For Easter Bunny)

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Best Homemade Salads In Town

Easter Plants

Agawam High Track Cards - \$5.00

And Cappuccino Center:
 10¢ For 8 Oz. CAPPUCCINO
 (Purchase Of Large Cappuccino)

Agawam Chamber Of Commerce Receives Update On Happenings On Beacon Hill

Agawam's two state legislators recently briefed members of the Agawam Chamber of Commerce on issues now being debated on Beacon Hill that could affect local business. The update, sponsored by the Agawam Chamber, was held at the Oaks and featured State Senator Linda Melconian and Representative Dan Keenan.

The event was moderated by Channel 22 political reporter Craig Smith, and allowed Chamber members to question Melconian and Keenan on such closely watched business issues as the Rivers Protection Bill state mandated as the Rivers Protection Bill, state mandated compensation and unemployment insurance systems.

On the matter of the Rivers Protection Bill, which would restrict development within 150-feet of a waterway, Melconian said the bill was passed by the Senate, but faces little prospect of being adopted by the House unless Gov. William Weld chooses to make it a priority. She predicts the bill will not be enacted into law this year.

Both Sen. Melconian and Rep. Keenan told the business persons in attendance there is also little chance that the law which requires Massachusetts employers to provide health insurance to workers would take effect this year.

Enactment of the bill has been delayed three times since it was signed by then-Gov. Michael Dukakis in 1988, and this year, the lawmakers said implementation would be delayed again, and there is a possibility the law will be stricken outright.

Rep. Keenan said while the state has made significant progress in reforming worker's compensation, employers themselves can do much in instituting changes in their own workplace that would allow injured workers to return quickly to the job performing light duty. He said abuse of the

system is more likely to occur when injured workers are allowed to remain home for long periods of time without any follow-up from their companies.

The legislature is also working on a proposal by Gov. Weld to reform the current unemployment system by reducing benefits from 30 to 26 weeks and reducing the benefit for dependents of unemployed persons. Rep. Keenan said while he does not want to see the state abandon its support of jobless people, the reforms proposed by the Governor would help make the state more competitive.

Sen. Melconian and Rep. Keenan also told the businesses that the measure which will most likely help Massachusetts businesses remain competitive with other states is the Single Sales Factor Bill, which was passed late last year. That measure reforms the corporate income tax system so that taxes are imposed only on corporate sales made within the state. The bill, which was originally proposed to help the giant defense contractor Raytheon, has been extended to all Massachusetts manufacturers.

The Chamber breakfast is part of an ongoing effort by the Agawam Chamber to work with all levels of government to promote pro-business policies. Agawam Chamber members will join colleagues from across the region April 24th at the Greater Springfield Chamber Operation Boston trip to Beacon Hill.

The Agawam Chamber hopes to develop a process to lawmakers apprised of issues that affect local companies. To do so requires the input of member businesses. If you are interested in taking part in this effort, please call Kevin McAlhorney or Jean Falk at the Agawam Chamber at 787-1555.



STATE REP. DANIEL F. KEENAN (top photo) briefs Agawam Chamber of Commerce members on what's been happening on Beacon Hill. TV-22 political reporter Craig Smith (below) served as moderator at the Chamber breakfast. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



LEGAL NOTICE

In accordance with Article 8, Section 8-1(b) of the Agawam Town Charter, the Agawam Town Council will conduct a public hearing on Monday, April 1, 1996 at 7:30 P.M. at the Agawam Middle School, 68 Main Street, Agawam, MA in regards to a request that the Agawam Town Council place

PUBLIC HEARING TOWN OF AGAWAM

on its agenda and approve a non-binding referendum question to be placed on the ballot at the next regular or special town election.

Ursula Retzler
Clerk of the Council

Published: March 28, 1996

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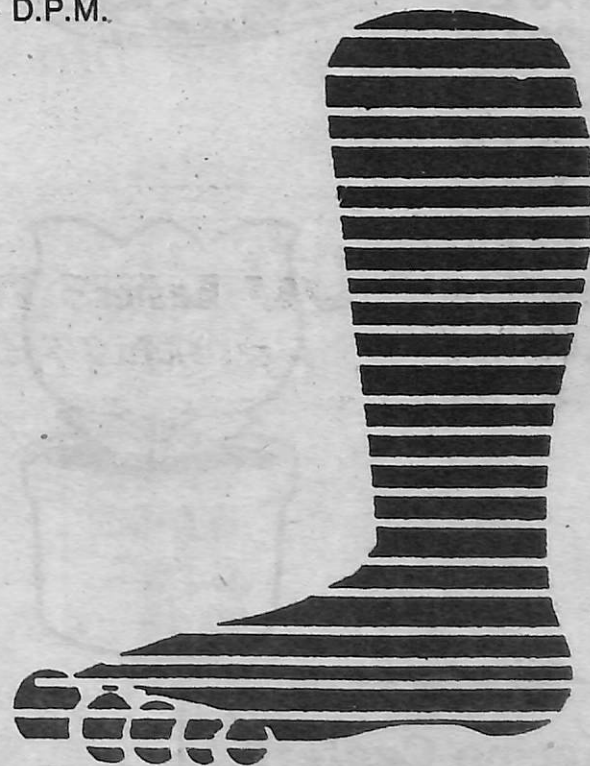
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Families



MAYOR CHRISTOPHER C. JOHNSON (left) with Agawam/West Side Toastmasters Club members **Karla Young, Joanne Attardi, and Bill Corbett.** Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Toastmasters Hold Open House At Country Estates

The Agawam/West Side Toastmasters Club recently held an Open House on March 14th at Country Estates Nursing & Rehabilitation Center of Agawam. Guest speaker for the event was Mayor Christopher Johnson.

Gina Blacki, Director of Admissions, and Robert Engell, Executive Director, hosted this successful event. Toastmaster club members took roles in various capacities, such as Grammarian, "AH" Counter, Timer, and General Evaluator.

Meetings are held on the second and fourth Thursday of every month beginning at 7:00 p.m. Guests from all communities are always welcome!

The Agawam/West Springfield-based group is a chapter of Toastmasters International, a non-profit, international organization headquartered in California.

The organization is dedicated to the individual development of effective communication and public speaking skills. The 8,000 Toastmasters Clubs around the world meet several times per month in a meeting format that is conducive to breaking the fear of speaking in front of a group and developing the self-confidence necessary to achieve career and life goals.

There is never an obligation to join and guests from all communities are always welcome.

Everyone is asked to please park in the rear of the building.

Please contact Jim Frantz, President (786-6920) or Joanne Attardi, vice-president Public Relations (731-4064) for further information.

Check
our
classified
pages
every
week



THE AGAWAM/WEST SIDE TOASTMASTERS held an open house at Country Estates Nursing & Rehab Center. Pictured with Mayor Christopher C. Johnson (far left) are members **Jim Collins, Robert Engell** of Country Estates Nursing & Rehab Center (who served as host of the event), **Joan Bedinotti, Bob Talaga, and Brian Bissell.** Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

"I Wed Three Wives" Coming To Town For Operation Friendship

Operation Friendship's Mystery Dinner offering, "I Wed Three Wives," will be presented on Saturday, April 13, 1996 at 6:30 p.m. The show will be held at Feeding Hills Congregational Church, 21 North Westfield Street, Feeding Hills.

Herb Fillbrook is married to three different women, all at the same time. When all three wives and Herb show up at the Feeding Hills Country Inn, all kinds of fireworks occur ... including MURDER!

Come and see if you can solve the mystery before the erstwhile Inspector. Compete with other tables to see who can win the evening's prize.

Ticket are \$12.50, including dinner. This has to be one of the best entertainment values in Agawam. Don't miss out!

Call 786-0195 or 789-3128 for reservations. (Please leave a name and telephone number if you get an answering machine.)

Ag. Senior Center's Weekly Lunch Menu

Monday, April 1st: Corned beef on rye, broccoli & cheese on baked potato, orange.

Tuesday, April 2nd: Baked chicken leg, potato wedges, peas, oatmeal bread, cake.

Wednesday, April 3rd: Turkey pot pie (celery, potatoes, carrots), tossed salad, wheat bread, mixed fruit.

Thursday, April 4th: Pork medallions, stuffing w/gravy, mixed vegetable, pumpkin bread, chocolate pudding.

Friday, April 5th: Fish nuggets, baked beans, cole slaw, rye bread, canned pears.

(Menu subject to change without notice.)

OUR DEADLINE IS TUESDAY AT NOON
but we appreciate those who bring in their copy on Monday.

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FINAL DAYS

Lunar Eclipse Viewing Night To Be Held At Agawam Library On April 3rd

The Springfield STARS Club will be conducting a Lunar Eclipse Viewing Night at the Agawam Public Library on the evening of April 3rd.

The event will begin with eclipse talks by STARS Club President Ed Faits, and Patrick Rowan, astronomy writer for the *Springfield Union-News*, beginning at 5:30 p.m. in the community room of the Agawam Library.

The talks will provide a scientific explanation of the event and also touch upon the historic and cultural aspects of eclipses. The talks will be held rain or shine and will be appropriate for all ages.

Beginning at sunset, the STARS Club will set up telescopes on the open space behind the library for observation of the eclipse. Telescopes will also be pointed at other interesting astronomical objects that will be visible, including the planet Venus and the Pleiades star cluster, and the recently discovered Comet Hyakutake.

Rain or solid overcast will force cancellation of telescopic observing. Both the talks and the telescope observing are free and open to the public.

Free parking for the event will be available at the Agawam High School parking lot, adjacent to the library. The library is located at 750 Cooper Street, off the Mill Street Exit of Rt. 57.

Eclipse Facts:

- Eclipses of the moon occur when the moon's orbit carries it into the shadow of the earth. Even though the moon orbits the earth once every 29½ days, lunar eclipses only occur two or three times per year, since the plane of the moon's orbit around the earth is tilted with respect to the plane of the earth's orbit around the sun. In most months, the moon either passes "above" or "below" the shadow of the earth as it swings past the opposite side of the earth from the sun. Of the lunar eclipses that occur, many are "partial," when the whole moon does not pass through the deep "umbral" shadow of the earth.

- About half the time a lunar eclipse occurs, it happens during daylight hours (as seen from Springfield) and can not be seen from here.

- Total lunar eclipses that occur during the

evening hours, when schoolchildren can easily view the event, occur on the average of once every four or five years. The next total lunar eclipse will occur around midnight on the evening of September 26th later this year. After that, we won't see another from North America until the year 2000.

- Eclipses of the sun (where the moon moves "in front of the sun," as seen from a point on earth) occur about as often as lunar eclipses, but can only be seen along a narrow eclipse line.

- Lunar eclipses are visible by anyone in the hemisphere that is facing the moon at the time it goes into eclipse.

April 3, 1996 eclipse key times: Sunset: 6:10 p.m., Moonrise: 6:12 p.m., Totality: 6:27 p.m. through 7:53 p.m., End of partial phase: 10:04 p.m.

Comet Hyakutake:

On January 30, 1996, Japanese amateur astronomer Yuji Hyakutake discovered a new comet using 25x150 binoculars. The comet was designated Comet C/1996 B2 (Hyakutake).

As subsequent observations of the new comet were obtained, Brian Marsden from the IAU Central Bureau was able to compute the comet's orbital elements, and these computations indicated that the comet will pass as close as 0.10 AU (9.3 million miles) from the Earth on March 25, 1996.

The comet is expected to become a bright object in March, April, and May of this year, and become a naked-eye object. It will probably become the brightest comet since Comet West in 1976.

Though the brightness of comets is still not very easy to predict, observations of Comet Hyakutake over the month since discovery have been very encouraging. In late March and early April, the comet should be as bright as the star Betelgeuse, though its light will be smudged across an area about the size of the full moon.

It will pass near the North Star on the night of March 27th. The comet should also sport a very large tail, though it may take an experienced observer and an observing site well away from interfering street lights to detect it.

Agawam High's Class Of 1981 To Form Reunion Committee

Attention, Agawam High School class of 1981—a reunion committee is forming!

On Tuesday, April 23, 1996, a meeting will be held at 7:15 p.m. in the Community Room of the Agawam Public Library.

If you would like to be part of the reunion committee but are unable to attend the meeting, please call either Nancy O'Keefe, 786-7738, or Dawn Uschmann (Negrucci), 786-3904.

Community Grange To Resume Card Parties

Community Grange No. 382 of Feeding Hills will hold its monthly card parties on Thursday, April 11th and April 18th.

Please note the change of the first party as being on the second Thursday instead of the first because of the Easter holiday.

Parties begin at 7:00 p.m., with door and playing prizes given each night. Refreshments will be served.

Miriam Caldwell and her committee are in charge.

Saxophonist Jeff MacKechnie Of F. Hills Releases First CD

The Tower Saxophone Quartet, in residence in Paintsville, KY, under a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, has just released its first CD. The debut album is self-titled and contains pieces from both the classical and jazz idioms.

One of the pieces, written for TSQ, is entitled "Come Sunday Morning." The piece combines classical and jazz elements and was written in tribute to the people of Moultrie, GA, where the quartet worked last year.

The composition is in two movements; in the first, "Callin' out," the quartet acts like four dynamic Southern preachers calling out to their congregation. In the second movement, the congregation "calls back."

Other pieces on the CD include music by French classical composers and jazz by such composers as Scott Joplin, Glenn Miller, and Dizzy Gillespie.

The ensemble has just returned from a tour of Rochester, NY, where they went to school, promoting the CD. The remainder of March finds them in Arizona for a week of concerts and in Gainesville, Florida, for the North American Saxophone Alliance National Conference. At the conference, they will perform the music of Dana Wilson (the composer of "Come Sunday Mornin'") and lecture about their rural residency experiences.

The local distributor of the CD is: Union Auto Parts, 47 Union Street, West Springfield (phone: 781-8739).

Jeff MacKechnie, the alto saxophonist of the Tower Saxophone Quartet, is a 1988 graduate of Agawam High School. His parents, Serge and Kathleen MacKechnie, reside in Feeding Hills.

Agawam Counseling Center Has Group For Senior Citizens

The Agawam Counseling Center, a United Way agency, is sponsoring a free group for senior citizens to share their memories.

With spring upon us, people are eager to get away from their cabin fever. Come join us! Members will be invited to share their memories through storytelling or sharing family pictures.

The location has not yet been determined. The group will meet beginning on Thursday, April 18th, from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. and run for approximately seven weeks.

If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Ruth Roberts or Judith Stone at 786-6410. Tell us if you need a ride or are able to provide a ride.

Did You Know That Jesus' Last Supper Was A Passover Seder?

On Palm Sunday, March 31st, come and see how Jesus Christ used the elements of the Passover Seder to explain his death, burial, and resurrection.

- Rabbi Paul Saal, of Congregation Shuvah Yisrael, will conduct this special service.
- Congregation Shuvah Yisrael, located in West Hartford, is a member of the Union of Messianic Jewish Congregations.

- 10:00 A.M. Sunday Morning Worship Service at the VFW Hall, located at 972 Sheldon Road (off Mountain Road - Rt. 168) in Suffield, Connecticut.
- Children's Ministry available during service.
- For further information, please call Reverend Peter Monahan at (860) 668-4444 or (413) 786-8735.

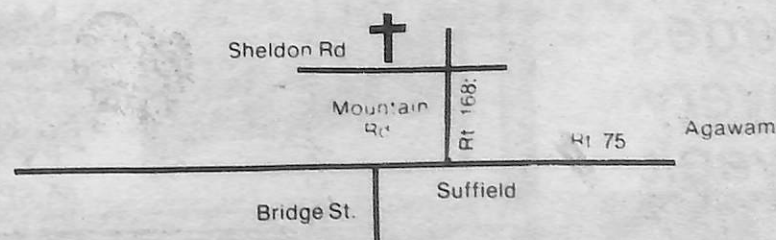


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A Foursquare Gospel Church

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- Contemporary Worship Music
- Children's Ministry Available During Services
- 10:00 A.M. Sunday Morning Worship Services At The VFW Hall, Located At 972 Sheldon Road (Off Mountain Road - Rt. 168) In Suffield, Connecticut
- One Of The Fastest Growing Protestant Denominations
- For Further Information, Please Call Reverend Peter Monahan, Pastor, At (860) 668-4444 Or (413) 786-8735.



Ag. Senior Center April Calendar

Monday, April 1st: 1:00 p.m., Bingo.
Tuesday, April 2nd: 9:00 a.m., SHINE representative ("by appointment"); 11:30 a.m., Birthday and anniversary celebration (by reservation); 12:30 p.m., Movie of the week; 1:00 p.m., Free blood pressure check.
Wednesday, April 3rd: 9:00 a.m., Podiatry with Dr. Dickert (by appointment); 1:00 p.m., Golden Agers' meeting, Chapter 2.
Friday, April 5th: 9:00 a.m., Free diabetes check; 12:30 p.m., Program with Bill Caplin.
Saturday, April 6th: 5:30 p.m., Bingo.
Monday, April 8th: 9:00 a.m., Weldon Center Hearing Van (by appointment - call Senior Center); 1:00 p.m., Bingo.
Tuesday, April 9th: 11:00 a.m., Charlie Prose Show (date change from April 10th); 12:30 p.m., Movie of the week.
Wednesday, April 10th: 9:00 a.m., Last day for free income tax assistance; 1:00 p.m., Golden Agers' meeting, Chapter 1.
Thursday, April 11th: 9:00 a.m., Podiatry with Dr. Salem (by appointment).
Friday, April 12th: 12:30 p.m., "Breast Cancer Awareness" with Lila Brady.
Saturday, April 13th: 9:00 a.m., ASGA (Agawam Senior Games Athletes) Spring Tag Sale; 5:30 p.m., Bingo.
Sunday, April 14th: 9:00 a.m., ASGA Tag Sale.
Monday, April 15th: Senior Center closed (Patriots' Day).
Tuesday, April 16th: 9:00 a.m., SHINE representative available to assist you with your health in-

surance questions; 12:30 p.m., Movie of the week; 1:00 p.m., Free blood pressure check.
Wednesday, April 17th: 10:30 to 11:45 a.m., Conversation with Rep. Dan Keenan; 12:30 p.m. (tentative), "Blue Care 65" with "Paula"; 1:30 p.m., Golden Agers' meeting, Chapter 2.
Thursday, April 18th: 9:00 a.m., Foot care nurses (by appointment).
Friday, April 19th: Special "Grandparents/Grandchildren Day" with entertainment.
Saturday, April 20th: 5:30 p.m., Bingo.
Monday, April 22nd: 1:00 p.m., AARP meeting.
Tuesday, April 23rd: 12:30 p.m., Movie of the week; 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., Free legal consultation (by appointment).
Wednesday, April 24th: 1:30 p.m., Golden Agers' meeting, Chapter 1.
Thursday, April 25th: 5:30 p.m., Volunteer Recognition Dinner.
Friday, April 26th: 12:30 p.m., program with Mr. Skal Guidi.
Saturday, April 27th: 5:30 p.m., Bingo.
Monday, April 29th: 9:00 a.m., Weldon Center Hearing Van (by appointment - call 786-0400, ext. 242).
Tuesday, April 30th: 12:30 p.m., Movie of the week.

BIRTHDAYS CELEBRATED:
 February - Antonio Caplette, Jim Quinn, Sophia Haureluke, and Lydia Martignetti.
 March - Nellie Wright, Guy Lehbunger, Olive

Huebner, and Gladys Francazio.

Good luck and a healthy, happy year ahead.

SPECIAL FRIDAY PROGRAM IN APRIL:

April 5th, 12:30 p.m. - Mr. William A. Caplin, who is a chartered financial consultant, will give a very informative program on long-term care ("options and requirements"), estate planning (is it for you?), annuities (what's annuity?), and more.

Don't miss this informative program. It's free!

April 12th, 12:30 p.m. - "Breast Cancer Awareness" with Lila Brady (not only for the ladies). A program to keep you informed and make you aware.

"GRANDPARENTS AND GRANDCHILDREN DAY" (April 29th):

A Senior Center first! Don't miss the fun! All grandparents are urged to call your grandchildren for this special day.

The menu is childproof and compatible, guaranteed to please! The entertainment is geared for all ages.

Please call in your reservation early (786-0400, ext. 242) because a full house is expected.

Kudos to Mr. Harold Davis, who is always "right there" when there's a need at the Senior Center.

We were having trouble with the height of our new video projector for our "Movie Day," and Mr. Davis came to the rescue and built a special unit to elevate the projector.

From all of us at the Senior Center—THANK YOU!!!

Class Of 1941 At Cathedral Plans Reunion

Are you amongst the missing and you just don't know it? Well, you are if you are reading this and you didn't receive your invitation to the 55th reunion of the Cathedral High School class of 1941!

The reunion committee is trying hard to find you. Take a minute and call Charlotte (Leahy) Reed, 525-3580, J. Paul Morin, 786-9599, or Bob Boulay, 592-1520, and let us know where we can reach you.

We have a festive evening planned for you on Saturday evening, May 18th, at the Carriage House, Storowton Village, West Springfield. We hope you will be there.

Grange Has Meetings In April

Community Grange No. 382 of Feeding Hills would like to announce their meetings for the month of April.

The first meeting will be held on April 2nd with Sherri Gelina, Chaplain of the Massachusetts State Grange Youth Leadership Association, as the guest speaker. Refreshments will be provided by Newton Thompson and Donna Charron.

The Community Citizen Award will be presented at the April 16th meeting. This will be an open meeting with the program beginning at 7:30 p.m. The Youth Committee will provide the refreshments.

Check
our
classified

Join Us As We Celebrate Holy Week

Palm Sunday - March 31

8:00 AM Eucharist with Palms
 10:00 AM Palm Processional with
 Eucharist at the Middle School*

*Nursery care available

Good Friday - April 5

10:00 AM Children's Stations Service
 7:00 PM Stations of the Cross

Holy Saturday - April 6

11:00 AM Caregivers Eucharist
 5:00 PM Children's Eucharist*

*Nursery care available

Easter Sunday - April 16

8:00 AM Festival Eucharist
 10:00 AM Festival Eucharist
 at the Middle School*

*Nursery care available

**St. David's
Episcopal Church**
 522 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills
 786-6133

20th Anniversary For Agawam Rotary Club



THE AGAWAM ROTARY CLUB held its 20th Anniversary Dinner at Chez Josef. Among those attending (photo left) were State Rep. Daniel F. Keenan (left) and Mayor Christopher C. Johnson (both brought proclamations honoring the Rotary). IN PHOTO RIGHT, Richard Garvey from *The Springfield Union-News* was the guest speaker for the event. Rotary President Kathy Ayre is also pictured in both photos. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

Stanley Park Official To Be Speaker At April 8th Garden Club Meeting

Mark LaVoie, superintendent of Stanley Park, Westfield, will be the guest speaker for the Agawam Garden Club following the April 8th meeting at 7:30 p.m. at the Captain Charles Leonard House on Main Street.

LaVoie has moved up through several positions at the park and his present responsibility involves overseeing horticultural and civic activities within

the park. He will address the Agawam group on "Incorporating Summer Flowering Bulbs in the Perennial Garden."

A social hour will follow under the direction of Hospitality co-chairpersons Nancy Smith and Terry Angotti. Anyone interested in the subject is invited to attend.

Upcoming Activities Slated At Fitness First

Get Motivated At Fitness First

Motivational Speaker Debbie Papagno will be speaking at Fitness First on Thursday, April 4th, at 7:00 p.m. Her topic will be a takeoff of her top-selling cassette tape, "The Driver's Seat ... Taking Control of Your Life."

Come hear Debbie's fresh ideas on how to take control of your life and motivate yourself for a more positive outlook. The admission is \$5 per person.

Call Fitness First at 786-1460 to register; seating is limited.

Nancy Dell To Speak At Fitness First

Nancy Dell will be speaking on "The Power of Herbs" at Fitness First on Tuesday, April 9th, at 7:00 p.m.

One-third of Americans turn to organic, complementary medicine. Science shows herbs can safely be used for headaches, PMS, colds, indigestion, stress, and energy. Learn to shop Mother Nature's pharmacy!

There is a \$5 fee per person. Call Fitness First at 786-1460 to register; seating is limited.

Fitness First To Hold April Vacation Kamp

Fitness First will be holding its annual Kid's Kamp during the week of April 15th-19th. The kamp runs from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. each weekday and is open to any child between three and 10 years of age.

Activities include indoor and outdoor sports, games, swimming, arts and crafts, and (of course) exercise! The cost for a full week of kamp for members is \$90; for non-members, the cost is \$115 per child.

Applications are available by stopping by or calling Fitness First at 786-1460. Reserve your child's space now, as space is limited to the first 60 children.

(Early drop-off between 8:00 and 10:00 a.m. may be arranged for parents who need to get to work.)

Check our classified

APRIL EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND SUPPORT GROUPS AT NOBLE HOSPITAL

All programs meet in the hospital Auditorium unless noted.

Stroke Support Groups:

For Patients	April 3, 5:30 p.m.
For Families	April 10, 5:30 p.m.
For Both	April 17, 5:30 p.m.

meets in the Bronson Dining Room

You're Never Too Busy to Volunteer April 3, 6:30 p.m.

"All About Migraines"

presented by Armand Aliotta, M.D. April 4, 6:30 p.m.

Better Breather's Support Group April 8, 2 p.m.

Estate Planning Program April 10, 6:30 p.m.

Crohn's & Colitis Support Group April 16, 7 p.m.

Alzheimer's Program April 17, 6:30 p.m.

Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation April 17 & 24
meet in the Education Department 6:30 p.m.

Cancer Support Group April 18, 7 p.m.

Diabetes Support Group April 23, 1 p.m.

For more information on any program, or to register, please call the hospital at 568-2811.

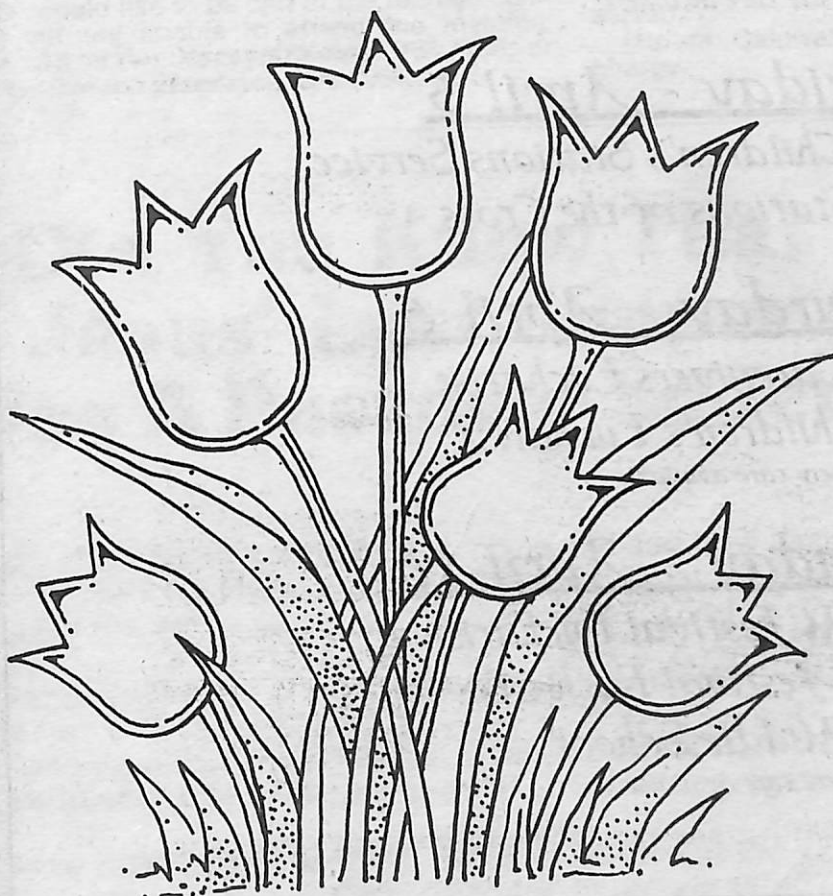


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Hampden County Chiropractic
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786-4820



Legion Charter



MICHELLE BITGOOD holds the special American Legion Charter while her mother, Joan Bitgood, post advisor (right) looks on. Also in photo are Post 185 historian George Johnson and Post Commander Mario A. L'Archeveque. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

German Dinner At Turnverein March 29th

The Springfield Turnverein, 176 Garden Street, Feeding Hills, is sponsoring a Kassler Rippchen Dinner (smoked pork chops) on Friday, March 29th.

Dinner will be served from 6:00-7:00 p.m. Reservations may be made with Christa Strehl by March 27th at 786-0143 or at the Club at 786-0924. A program for your listening and dancing pleasure will be presented by the fabulous "Vagabonds."

Guests are cordially invited to join us for an entertaining evening.

Dinner Dance At Chez Josef To Benefit Katelynn Battista

A dinner dance to benefit Katelynn Battista will take place on Monday, April 8, 1996 at Chez Josef (off Route 75, Shoemaker Lane, Agawam).

Katelynn is a 10 year-old fourth grader from West Springfield who suffers from an aggressive form of leukemia. Katelynn's hope is to find a suitable donor to have a bone marrow transplant, which could completely cure her disease.

The dinner dance will begin with a cocktail hour from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m., and a ziti and meatball buffet will follow at 7:00 p.m.

Entertainment will be provided by "DJ Dennis Productions," and a fundraising raffle will also be held.

The donation is \$20 per person. For tickets, call 736-6896, 739-5125, or 747-9674.

The Fedier Family Announces Birth Of Daughter, Melinda

James and MaryAnn Fedier are proud to announce the birth of their second daughter.

Melinda Renee Fedier was born on Friday, March 1st, at Providence Hospital in Holyoke. She weighed seven pounds, four ounces, and was 21½ inches long.

Melinda was welcomed home by her big sister, Jillian, who turned three on March 15th.

The proud grandparents are Ann and Ernest Ghidoni of South Yarmouth, and John and Theresa Fedier of West Springfield.

All the local news with us, each week
ADVERTISER NEWS

Calendar Of April Events For Agawam Golden Age Clubs

April 3rd: Chapter 2 - Regular meeting at 1:30 p.m. with guests Mr. & Mrs. Heyl showing slides on a "Balloon Fest" in New Mexico.

April 10th: Chapter 1 - Regular meeting at 1:30 p.m. with a guest speaker—a tour representative regarding a future trip to Branson, Missouri.

April 10th: Chapter 2 - Installation of officers banquet. To be held at the Storowton Carriage House, West Springfield, with entertainment. Dinner at 12:00 noon.

April 11th: Chapter 2 - Trip to New York City to enjoy the "Easter Show," with dinner at the Chart House Restaurant.

April 17th: Chapter 1 - Trip to the Long Wharf Theatre In New Haven, Connecticut, to enjoy the play "All in the Timing."

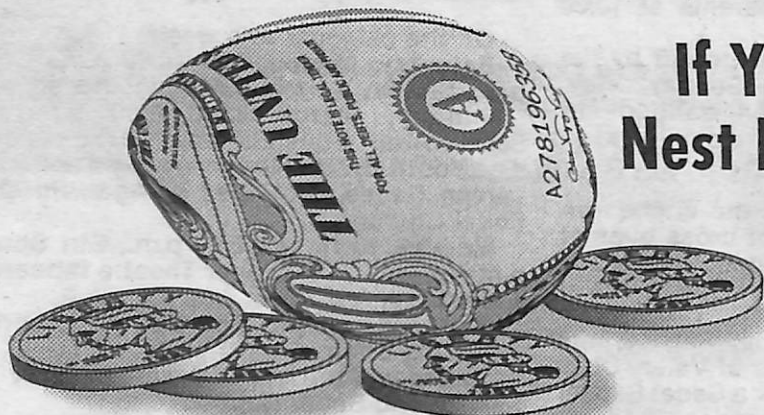
April 17th: Chapter 2 - Regular meeting at 1:30 p.m. with guest Mrs. Marilyn Curry speaking on "Nostalgic Agawam."

April 23rd: Chapter 2 - Trip to the Foxwoods Casino in Connecticut.

April 24th: Chapter 1 - Installation of officers banquet. To be held at the Storowton Carriage House, West Springfield, with entertainment. Dinner at 12:30 p.m.

April 26th: Chapter 2 - Board of directors' meeting at 1:00 p.m. at the Senior Center.

April 29th: Chapter 1 - Trip to "Granit," a resort in the Catskill Mountains.



If You Haven't Started Your Retirement Nest Egg, We'll Make the First Step Easy.

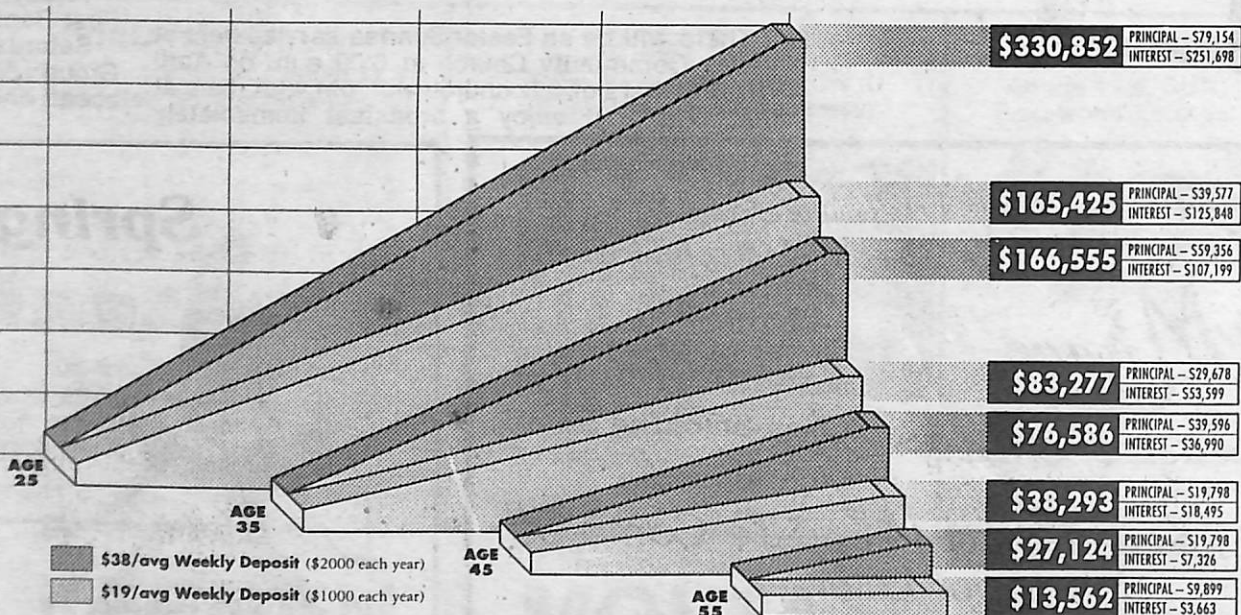
Just \$10 opens your *Easy Does It* retirement account, our flexible IRA that's set up to meet your exact needs. Our IRA Specialist will regularly monitor your fund and keep you informed of the most favorable interest-earning options. We'll provide counsel and implement your decisions. Your tax-deferred, fully-insured nest egg will grow with the help of daily compounded interest—and absolutely no costs or fees.

About the Growth Graph

- Graph for illustrative purposes only.
- Nest egg dollar totals based on 6% interest. (The average rate of Hampden's 12 month CD over the past 10 years ending 12/31/95 was 6.14%.) Actual accumulated dollars can be greater or less than examples depending upon rates prevailing during the plan.
- Graph assumes voluntary termination of plan at age 65, through continuation of a tax-deferred IRA is allowed by the IRS to age 70½.
- All deposit and withdrawal conditions, limitations and penalties that apply to IRAs also apply to the *Easy Does It* retirement plan.



Questions? Our IRA Specialist Cynthia Bartels has answers. She can send you a pamphlet on our *Easy Does It* program. Phone 736-1812.



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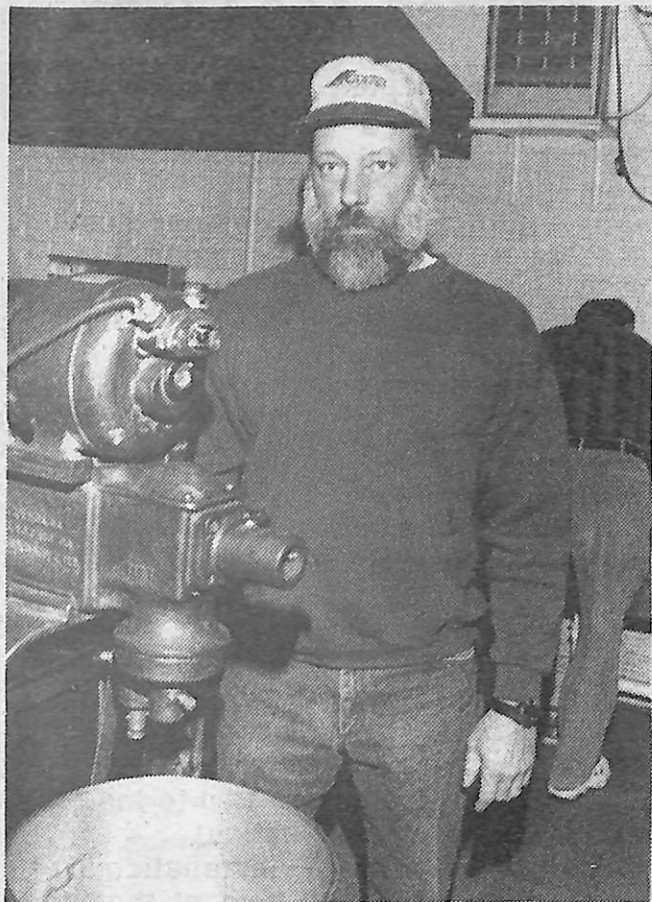
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Church News

Saturday Night Chicken Supper At Valley Community



IN TOP PHOTO, Don Manley was one of the kitchen helpers at the most recent Saturday night chicken suppers at Valley Community Church. IN PHOTO BELOW, Donald Manley and Brett Taylor were two of the early diners. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



LINDA ORR, HELEN ANDERSON, and DOT WELLS were part of the kitchen crew at the most recent Saturday night chicken supper at Valley Community Church. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Holy Week Schedule At F.H. Congregational

You are welcome to join with us at the Feeding Hills Congregational Church, which is located at 21 N. Westfield Street in Feeding Hills.

Sunday School for children and adults begins at 9:00 a.m. Children are then welcome to attend the worship service with their parents at 10:00 a.m.

There will be a special procession led by the children this week for Palm Sunday. Rev. Donaldson will preach a sermon entitled "In Search of Other Things."

Nursery care will be provided.

The Youth Group will meet in the kitchen on Saturday, March 30th, to bake hot cross buns at 1:00 p.m. They will sell their delicious delights the following morning after worship.

There will be a Maundy Thursday Service here on April 4th at 7:00 p.m. Members of Valley Community Church will join with us for a Seder Supper which will precede the worship service.

There will be an Easter Sunrise service held at Valley Community Church at 6:00 a.m. on April 7th. Members of this church will join with them at that time and enjoy a breakfast immediately

following the service.

Later that morning at 10:00 a.m., a traditional Easter Worship Service will take place in the sanctuary of the Feeding Hills Congregational Church.

On the calendar this week:

Saturday, March 30th: 10:00 a.m., Choir; 1:00 p.m., Sunday School baking in kitchen.

Sunday, March 31st: 9:00 a.m., Sunday School/Adult Bible Literacy; 10:00 a.m., Palm Sunday; Youth Group Hot Cross Buns sale; 7:15 p.m., Lenten Series continues at Agawam Congregational Church.

Monday, April 1st: 5:00 p.m., Girl Scouts; 7:30 p.m., Council; OF Dinner Theatre rehearsal.

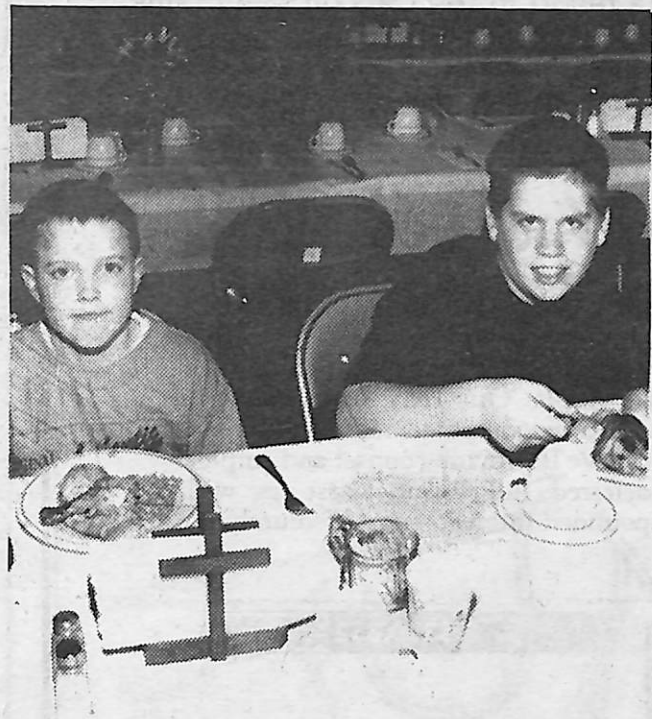
Tuesday, April 2nd: 7:00 p.m., A.A.

Wednesday, April 3rd: 2:30 p.m., Girl Scouts; 7:00 p.m., Choir.

Thursday, April 4th: 7:00 p.m., Maundy Thursday Service and Seder Supper.

Friday, April 5th: Ecumenical worship service at First Baptist Church; 7:00 p.m., Radio Club.

Saturday, April 6th: 10:00 a.m., Choir; Youth Group planting flowers; Change your clocks ahead one hour before you go to bed!



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Feeding Hills

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786-5187

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OPEN 2:30 - 4:30, SUN., MARCH 31
118 Princeton St. (off Northwood)



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Cate Shea

567-8931

567-3355

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OPEN 2 - 4, SUN., MARCH 31
96 Mullen (off Montgomery)



Decorator's dream 4 bedroom Cape. Only 4 years old with vinyl siding. Set on large private yard, gas heat. \$152,500.

Patti O'Connell

569-0138

569-5790

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OPEN 1 - 4, SUN., MARCH 31
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Church News - continued...



From the PULPIT

by Rev. Len Cowan
St. David's Church

"Lightly Salted"

INTRO: When I was a college student, there was a young woman who made a deep impression on all who knew her: she was intelligent, well-informed, a good student, but not a "nerd."

She had a radiant smile, a delightful sense of humor, a sweet laugh. She was compassionate, with a deep concern for others and for the world at-large. She was forthright: she stood up for what was right, without being offensive about it. She was honest, vivacious, and gracefully athletic. People loved to be with her, including me.

I have never known such a magnetic person in my life, and never will yet. She's the perfect example of what I believe the Lord wants us to be like. This person, who is still all of those things and more, is still my friend, and today is my wife. She's a great example of what I want to call being a "Lightly Salted Christian."

Jesus was on a mountain: His disciples, those who wanted to learn from Him, were gathered around, a bunch of simple people like you and me. He said: "**You are the salt of the earth,**" not of Jerusalem or Galilee, but of the whole earth; "**You are the light of the world,**" the entire universe. They were to be "**lightly salted.**" What did Jesus mean by this?

Salt makes things taste better: brings out the flavor in food. A meal without salt, or without a "salt substitute," is bland, sometimes inedible. Life without God is boring, too, sometimes unlivable. And so, people need to be "salted" by Jesus Christ, the God who can bring "flavor," ex-

citement, and abundance to any life yielded to Him.

Jesus wants His followers to be salt to the world, to sprinkle about Jesus' joy, peace, and hope. A "salty" Christian helps others to become thirsty for the satisfying water of life which Jesus alone can give. My wife is that kind of person, "salted" by Jesus Christ in such a way that others are drawn to Him.

But please notice that we're not to be "sugar" to the world: being a Christian doesn't involve being sweet alone. We're to be "different" from the world, on occasion critical of it, seeking to draw out its best, and suppress its worst. **Christians should make things taste better for others.**

Salt also preserves food, so it won't rot or decay. In the days of Jesus, there were no refrigerators, and so salt kept food fresh, served as a preservative to keep things from wasting away. Jesus came to save people from sin and death. We all need to be "salted" by Jesus Christ, the God who can save us from sin's decay within and from its rottenness without ultimately resulting in our death.

And so, His followers are to be salt to the world, to bring out the good, and to reject the evil in ourselves, in others, and in our world. The "salted" Christian helps others to be hungry for Jesus, the Bread of Life. My wife is like that: she lifts up what's true and good so that others seek the Good which is in the Lord. **Christians want others to be preserved, so that they won't decay away from the life-giving Presence of the Lord Jesus Christ.**

How does a person become a "salty" Christian? Jesus said that His followers are also to be the light of the world. We are to be "**lightly salted**": to allow light of God's Word/Bible to get into us; to allow the light of God's Spirit to shine through us; to allow the light of God's People to draw around us.

Once we are "lightly salted," the darkness in us and around us will be driven back, so that real life can come to us, shine through us, and be available to others. Let's seek the Lord together, that we may become lightly salted Christians.

Valley Community To Observe Easter Week

Great things are happening "high on a hilltop" at Valley Community Church.

On Palm Sunday after the Worship Service, the congregation will gather to build and erect a huge wooden cross. The cross will stand 14 feet high and will be a permanent symbol to all who may see it that our town is thriving in Christian love and fellowship.

On Good Friday, the church will hold a Dedication Service beginning at 12:00 noon. During the dedication, a crown of thorns and black shroud will be placed on the cross representing Christ's suffering and death by crucifixion.

Both the raising of the cross and the dedication service are going to be powerful and moving experiences during this Easter season, and members of Valley Community Church warmly invite everyone to join them to share their faith, their beliefs, and their love for Christ.

Valley Community Church is located at 152 South Westfield Street in Feeding Hills.

Grace Baptist Church To Host Conference

On April 11th and 12th, Grace Baptist Church at 475 Pine Street, Feeding Hills, will host the 50th anniversary conference of the Northeast Regular Baptist Fellowship of Churches.

This is the 50th anniversary of this church fellowship, which was founded at the former premises of the church in Springfield. Grace Baptist is one of only two charter churches that have remained in the group since its inception.

There will be representatives from churches all across New England and Eastern New York. On Thursday evening, April 11th, the service starts at 7:30 p.m., and the conference runs throughout Friday night, April 12th.

The sessions are open to the public, and the church welcomes visitors. For more details, call Pastor Todd Kilburn at 821-0112 or at his home in Springfield, 734-1885.

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a department of the Westfield Woman's Club

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Rodgers & Hammerstein's

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Music by Richard Rodgers
Book & Lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II

Directed by
Bob Laviolette
Musical Director
Karen Dion

Co-Choreographers
Stacy Ashley
Alison Forance

APRIL
12, 13, 19, 20,
26, 27 at 8:00 P.M.

PLUS
Special Matinees
April 20 & 27 at 2:00 P.M.

All performances at the
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high energy renditions of all the hits
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During the past decade the ten-member
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Church News - continued...

Methodist Church
Plans Easter Events

EARLY RISING UNITED METHODIST MEN—On Sunday, March 24th, United Methodist men from Agawam United Methodist Church met at 6:30 a.m. for Holy Communion.

The voices of fathers and sons rose boisterously as they sang "Rise Up, O Men of God." The Communion Service was followed by a Men's Breakfast.

On Sunday, March 31st, the Choir will render the traditional anthem, "The Palms."

The soloist in the singing of "The Holy City" will be Mark Mickey.

Worship on Sunday, March 31st, will be at 9:30 a.m. The full-hour Church School will provide our children with the opportunity of benefiting from the Children's Ministry of Biblical Teaching, singing, and other related Sunday School activities.

Nursery care is provided for infants and toddlers.

The Palm Sunday Service will be conducted by Rev. R. Telemaque. The message will aim at establishing the relevance of Christ's kingly rule in society and for individuals today.

The service begins with the procession of palms by the children.

Sunday, April 7th, is Easter Sunday. The Sunrise Service will be at 5:30 a.m. (or time of sunrise). The service in the open will give the opportunity to all to commemorate the peace and beauty of the Resurrection in accordance with the Biblical description of the historic event.

Worship in the Sanctuary begins at 9:30 a.m. Donations of lilies for the decoration of the Sanctuary may be made in memory of a loved one or in honor of a friend or loved one.

Join the audience on April 21st at 5:00 p.m. as the Freedom Choir of Springfield performs in concert at the Agawam United Methodist Church. Call 786-5278 for reservations.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE:

On Holy Thursday (Maundy Thursday), worship and administration of the Lord's Supper (Holy Communion) will take place at 7:30 p.m.

On Good Friday, meditations will take place from 12:00 noon to 3:00 p.m. That evening, a 7:00 p.m. Ecumenical Service will take place at the Agawam Baptist Church on Main Street.



Reflections...

submitted by
Rev. Peter Monahan
Pastor of the Church
of the Apostles,
Suffield, CT
(860) 668-4444 or
(413) 786-8735

"Disciples" And "Sisters"

Most of us are familiar with the story of Jesus raising His friend Lazarus from the dead. It is recounted in the 11th chapter of the Gospel of John, which was read in many churches this past weekend.

We recall that when Jesus was told that Lazarus was sick, he stayed where He was for two days and then headed for Judea to take care of His friend. The disciples expressed some concern for Jesus' and their own personal safety, because not long before some people in Judea had tried to kill Jesus.

While Jesus was en route, Lazarus died. Upon His arrival in Judea, each of Lazarus' two sisters, Mary and Martha, greeted Jesus individually with the same declaration of faith: "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died."

Jesus then went to Lazarus' grave and called him to come out, which Lazarus did (even though he had been in the grave for four days). It goes without saying that everybody was absolutely stunned.

While most people would naturally focus their attention on the main characters of this story, Jesus and Lazarus, we would do well to reflect for a moment on the other two groups, Jesus'

disciples and Lazarus' sisters. That is because they represent two types of Christian faith; those who know about Jesus and those who truly know Jesus Himself.

In the case of Jesus' disciples, we see people who had traveled with Jesus for some time and knew a lot about Him. They had been with Jesus as He had changed water into wine, healed numerous people, and turned a few morsels of food into a meal for 5,000 people.

It had gotten to the point where it must have seemed there was nothing Jesus could not do. Yet, when presented with the challenge of traveling into a hostile neighborhood, these disciples who had witnessed Jesus' countless miracles were afraid of the danger they were facing.

In the case of Lazarus' sisters, they, too, knew Jesus and had seen at least some of the miracles He had performed, but maybe not all of them.

When they encountered Jesus in this story, they were in a state of tremendous grief, having just lost their dear brother. Nevertheless, in the midst of great personal tragedy, the sisters still declared unquestioning faith in Jesus and His abilities.

Obviously, the disciples of Jesus and the sisters of Lazarus had faith in Jesus, but it appears there were some significant differences between them. Jesus' disciples knew a lot about Jesus, but their knowledge about Jesus did not translate into confidence in Him.

In the meantime, Lazarus' sisters seemed to know more than just about Jesus; they seemed to really know and understand Him. Their confidence of Jesus then translated into unwavering confidence in Him.

Eventually, the disciples also got to know Jesus in the same way Lazarus' sisters knew Him, and their confidence in Him also became rock solid. It should be our desire and our prayer to follow in the footsteps of faith of Mary and Martha.

Boston College Athletic Director To Guest Speak
At Knights Of Columbus Communion Breakfast

The Knights of Columbus Communion Breakfast will be held on Sunday, April 4th.

Mass will be celebrated at Sacred Heart Church at 9:00 a.m. with breakfast to follow at 10:30 a.m.

at Maria's Restaurant, 605 Silver Street, Agawam.

Guest speaker will be Chet Gladchuck, athletic director, Boston College.

Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$4 for children and may be obtained by calling Jim Jenks at 786-0857 or Frank Meagher at 786-8023.

The public is cordially invited.

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Church News - continued...

Weekly Calendar From
Ag. Congregational

This Sunday, March 31st, is Palm Sunday. At the Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main Street, Agawam, a beautiful Easter Cantata will be presented by the Sanctuary Choir under the direction of Bryan Kirby.

The joint Lenten Series with the Feeding Hills Congregational Church entitled "Faith Over Fear - A Lenten Journey" continues this Sunday night at 7:15 p.m. at the Agawam Congregational Church.

The topic this week will be "Loneliness." Rev. Rob Donaldson and Rev. Curt Fuller will lead the evening of song, prayer, meditation, and discussion. Childcare will be provided.

A New Member Class will be held on Saturday, March 30th, at 10:00 a.m.

Anyone wishing to join the church is welcome to attend. Please call the church office at 786-7111 for more info.

Get ready for spring! The Annual Spring Festival, sponsored by the Ladies Aid Society, will be held on Saturday, March 30th, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Come on down and browse through the "Garden Gate" filled with flower decor, or the "Nutmeg Bakery" and treat yourself to the homemade baked goods.

Try our "Daffodil Lunch Cafe" for rest and refreshment. Enjoy a chicken salad plate, ham and potato salad, or seafood roll with lemon delight or fresh fruit for dessert, with coffee, tea, or milk for a beverage.

Other booths include: "The Country Craft Shop," "The Cutting Edge," "Clothesline Boutique," "Candy Cupboard," "This 'N That," "Attic Treasures," "Eleanor's Magic Needle," and a "Young Adult & Youth Booth."

Don't forget your raffle tickets for a very special handcrafted prize. So ... come for an hour or stay for a while. See you there.

Any questions? Call the church office at 786-7111.

The one-day Vacation Bible Camp is planned for Friday, April 19th, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. The theme for the camp is "Loaves & Fishes."

The cost for the camp is \$3 per child and \$8 maximum per family. For more information and registration, call the church office at 786-7111.

The 1996 Confirmation Class will be received into the church on Maundy Thursday, April 4th, at 7:00 p.m. Rev. Steve Gray, Associate Conference Minister of the Massachusetts United Church of Christ, will conduct the service.

This year's confirmands are Alison Moran, Robert Fuller, and Jennifer Rettew. The Deacons will conduct a Service of Tenebrae immediately following the Confirmation service.

Easter Services will be a Sunrise Service at 6:30 a.m.; an Easter Breakfast from 7:00 to 8:30 a.m. at the church; and Easter Services at 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.

Best local news...

Scouts Receive "God & Country Awards"



PACK 75 SCOUTS receiving their "God & Country Awards" at the Agawam United Methodist Church are Kyle Henry, Kevin Telford, and Eric Porth. In back row are Scoutmasters Nancy & Jack Hallbauer with Reverend Reuben Telemaque. The Scouts are members of Den 4.

Happenings This Week At First Baptist

This Sunday, March 31st, will start our Holy Week at First Baptist Church (corner of Main and Elm Streets) with a breakfast at 8:30 a.m. All are invited to attend this Palm Sunday meal, sponsored by the Caring Connection and the Youth Leadership Team. A free-will offering will be taken.

Upon leaving the breakfast, the people will be given palms and form a procession to the Sanctuary for the 9:30 a.m. service.

Pastor Richard Barnes will preach on "Shouting Hosannahs," using scriptural text from Luke 19: 37 and 38. The choir will offer special Lenten music.

On this Sunday evening at 7:00 p.m., the Board of Deacons will hold their monthly meeting.

Monday, April 1st: The Amicitia and Sunshine Circles will both meet at 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, April 2nd: 1:15 p.m., the EZ-Does-It Aerobics Class; 7:30 p.m., the Church Committee will hold its monthly meeting.

Wednesday, April 3rd: 7:00 a.m., Lenten breakfast, meditation, and prayer; 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., the Trading Post is open.

Thursday, April 4th: 1:15 p.m., EZ-Does-It Aerobics Class; 6:30 p.m., Maundy Thursday Seder Meal and Communion.

The Seder meal we celebrate will combine Passover and Communion to show the tie between the sacrifices of old and Jesus' sacrifice. A

sample of the Seder meal will consist of some of the traditional elements such as lamb, bitter herbs, salt water, parsley, apples, nuts, etc. We will also serve chicken breast, potatoes, and carrots.

Communion will be celebrated afterwards. There will be a choir rehearsal following this at about 7:30 p.m.

Friday, April 5th: At 7:00 p.m., the Good Friday Community Service will be held in our Sanctuary. Representatives from our area churches (including Agawam Methodist, Valley Community, Agawam Congregational UCC, and Feeding Hills Congregational, as well as our own) will be taking part in the service. Light refreshments will follow.

At 8:00 p.m., the Youth Leadership Team will meet at the home of the John Barber's.

Saturday, April 6th: 9:00 a.m., the Flower Committee will meet to decorate the Sanctuary for Easter mornings; 9:30 a.m., the Senior Youth Group will meet at Church for their trip to Brightside.

At bedtime, remember to move your clocks ahead one hour.

Sunday, April 7th: The Easter Service will begin at 9:30 a.m. with special music, three Baptisms, and Pastor Barnes' sermon, "Lord of All," with Scripture (John 20: 26 and 27).

More details will be forthcoming.

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Church News - continued...

Holy Week Events To Begin March 30th At St. David's Church

HOLY WEEK BEGINS THIS SUNDAY! In honor of the remembrance of the last week of Jesus' earthly life among us, St. David's has scheduled worship services and special events for you to meet God.

AT THE PALM SUNDAY WEEKEND WORSHIP SERVICES OF ST. DAVID'S CHURCH

—The Quiet Eucharist, Saturday at 5:00 p.m.
—The Traditional Service, Sunday at 8:00 a.m. (both held at the church building, 522 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills).

—The Contemporary Service, Sunday at 10:00 a.m. (at the Agawam Middle School).

Palms will be distributed and blessed, in remembrance of the triumphal entry of Jesus into the Holy City, Jerusalem, as He began the last week of His earthly life among us.

The narrative of Jesus' arrest, trial, crucifixion, and burial will be acted out by the congregation in a responsive reading. The Pastor will speak about how Jesus is the One we need to see us through the tough times.

Children's Sunday School for those in grades Pre-K-8 will be available during the first part of the 10:00 a.m. service. Child Care and Interpretation for the Deaf will also be available.

CONTINUING ON IN HOLY WEEK

Prayer Services will be held Monday and Tuesday at 6:45 p.m., a half-hour for Bible reading and prayer centered on these great days.

The Tenebrae Service on Wednesday at 6:45 p.m. includes Psalms and Hymns recalling the greatness of Christ's sacrifice. After the 45-minute service, healing prayers will be available.

The Simple Supper Maundy Thursday at 5:30 p.m. reminds us of Jesus' Last Supper, including foot-washing for those wanting to participate, and concludes with the Holy Eucharist at 7:00 p.m. Sign up for supper.

The Children's Stations of the Cross on Friday at 10:00 a.m. recounts Jesus' death in story and action, a simpler version of the adults Stations.

The Prayer Services Good Friday at 12:00 noon and at 2:30 p.m. are a half-hour to focus on this greatest sacrifice. The Nave will be open for prayer from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m.

The Caregivers Eucharist on Saturday at 11:00 a.m. is a half-hour Easter service for those who are ill or infirm.

The Children's Eucharist on Saturday at 5:00 p.m. is an Easter service for the young and young-at-heart, with gifts for all children attending.

The Easter Sunday Services both feature music, with the Traditional Liturgy at 8:00 a.m., and the Contemporary at 10:00 a.m. at the Agawam Middle School.

THE YOUTH GROUPS OF ST. DAVID'S CHURCH will be joining with other youth and adults from throughout our area in serving a meal for the homeless and hungry this Palm Sunday in West Springfield. Youth wishing further information can call the church office to ask for Jane Tuohy.

Easter Sunrise Service On April 7th At Valley Community

Do you miss the old "family tradition" of beginning each Easter with a Sunrise Service? Is your day so full of travel or activities that you can't attend your Easter Worship Service? Or perhaps the true meaning of Easter has slipped from your heart by day-to-day pressures?

Valley Community Church and Feeding Hills Congregational Church invite you to join them in fellowship on Easter morning at 6:00 a.m. outside for the annual Easter Sunrise Service.

The Service will be led by both Rev. Stephen Dennehy from Valley Community Church and Rev. Robert Donaldson from Feeding Hills Congregational Church. The hilltop will be covered with the congregations from both churches as they celebrate the impact of Christ's resurrection for all Christians.

During the service, they also will be removing the crown of thorns and black shroud from the newly-erected cross, and adorning it with the Crown of Kings and white shroud.

So, if you want to rekindle or start an Easter family tradition; or if you want to pause before you start your busy Easter day; or if you need to fill your heart with rejoicing about what Christ's resurrection can do for you ... then we'll look for you "high on a hilltop" on Easter sunrise.

Come and join in celebration and fellowship. You will then travel down from this hilltop renewed, refreshed, and rejoicing.

Holy Week Masses At St. Anthony's And St. Theresa's

The following is the Holy Week Mass schedule for St. Anthony of Padua Church (corner of Bridge and Maple Street, Agawam) and St. Theresa's Church (74 Bridge Street, Agawam).

* Sunday, March 31, 1996:

At St. Anthony's - 9:00 a.m., Palm Sunday Mass; 9:45 a.m., First Reconciliation for the First Communion Class.

At St. Theresa's - 11:00 a.m., Palm Sunday Mass.

* Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday—April 1, 2, and 3, 1996:

At St. Theresa's - 8:40 a.m., The Rosary; 9:00 a.m., Mass.

* Thursday, April 4, 1996:

At St. Theresa's - 3:00 p.m., Confessions; 7:00 p.m., Holy Thursday Mass.

* Friday, April 5, 1996:

At St. Anthony's - 3:00 p.m., Stations of the Cross; 3:30 p.m., Confessions; 7:00 p.m., Good Friday Service.

* Saturday, April 6, 1996:

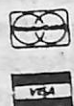
At St. Theresa's - 11:00 a.m., Confessions; 3:00 p.m., Confessions; 7:00 p.m., Easter Vigil Mass.

* Sunday, April 7, 1996:

At St. Theresa's - 9:00 a.m., Easter Mass; 11:00 a.m., Easter Mass.

At St. Anthony's - 9:00 a.m., Easter Mass; 11:00 a.m., Easter Mass.

Best local news...



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Will be held at the Polish American Club of Agawam, Inc., 139 Southwick St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030. On April 27 & 28 from 9 AM to 5 PM.

For more Information/Application call Don, (413) 786-6124.

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U.S. CONGRESSMAN RICHARD NEAL and DISTRICT ATTORNEY WILLIAM BENNETT are pictured at the Epilepsy Awareness Dinner-Dance with Carol Pietroniro, Janet McDermott, Michael Pietroniro, and Jacob Frye. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



MICHAEL PIETRONIRO (photo left) was presented an Epilepsy Association Pin by Mass. Epilepsy Association Executive Director William Murphy as Michael's proud father looks on. IN PHOTO RIGHT, Mary Frye of the Michael Pietroniro Fundraising Committee presents William Murphy a plaque with the pictures of some of the kids in Western Mass. who have Epilepsy and who someday may benefit from all the research the Epilepsy Association promotes. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



Chiropractic Care
by
Dr. Tami Nelson
Chiropractic Physician
Hampden County
Chiropractic
850 Springfield St.
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786-4820

Effects Of A Difference In Leg Lengths

A fascinating study was recently performed by a medical doctor who is also a runner, to see if a difference in leg length can create a biomechanical change.

An MRI study was performed on the legs of normal runners, then a quarter-inch wedge was inserted in one shoe to create pronation in the foot and an imbalance.

A follow-up MRI was taken of the legs two weeks later. In only a two-week period, differences were observed in the bone and soft tissue.

This fascinating study reveals that a structural imbalance can create biomechanical changes. What causes leg length inequality? One leg can be actually shorter than the other; this can be congenital or due to an injury early in life.

For example, a broken leg in childhood can heal improperly and create an imbalance. Pronation on the feet can create a change in leg length. The legs are connected to the pelvis via the hips.

Therefore, if the pelvis is not functioning properly, it can create a functional short leg or leg length inequality. This creates imbalance on the system, which can lead to low back pain, hip pain, or sciatica.

Chiropractors believe that in order for the body to be functioning 100 percent, the body should be balanced. That is why chiropractors assess the leg length, to see whether an imbalance is present.

What does a chiropractor do if there is? First, get to the cause of the problem.

If the inequality is due to an actual anatomical leg length difference, a heel lift may be appropriate. If leg length inequality is due to pelvic dysfunction, then the pelvis, hips, and low back need to be adjusted accordingly.

If you are experiencing pain or believe there is an imbalance, it is important to be checked thoroughly by a chiropractor.

Dr. Nelson maintains a practice at Hampden County Chiropractic, 850 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills. She is available to answer questions on Monday and Wednesday from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. at 786-4820.



Food for Thought

by Nancy Dell
Registered Dietician

Lactose Intolerance Part II

Testing Tolerance

For his study, Levitt recruited 30 adults who identified themselves as severely lactose intolerant. Of those, nine actually produced some level of the enzyme lactase and 21 did not.

All subjects in the randomized, double-blind crossover study drank eight ounces of milk with breakfast for two weeks. One week the milk was treated to digest the lactose, the next week it was not.

"A good share of our subjects thought they would have to withdraw from the study because they wouldn't be able to tolerate the milk we were asking them to drink," observed Levitt. "However, no one in the test noticed more stomach problems from the regular milk than the lactose-reduced one."

Writing in the July 6, 1996 issue of the *New England Journal of Medicine*, Levitt and his co-authors concluded that when lactose intake is limited to eight ounces or less a day, symptoms are likely to be negligible.

However, they stress that their findings are based on adults and should not be extrapolated to children.

Keeping Calcium In The Diet

Even if one is lactose intolerant, nutritionists advise keeping high-calcium foods, particularly dairy products, in the daily diet. Essential in the growth and repair of bones throughout life, calcium is particularly important in preventing osteoporosis or weakening of the bones.

Some studies suggest the mineral also helps reduce the risk of developing high blood pressure and some forms of cancer. Other studies have shown that those with a low calcium intake do not get enough of vitamins A, D, and B12, and the minerals potassium, phosphorus, and magnesium.

Calcium requirements vary with one's age and sex, according to the National Institute of Health's Consensus Development Panel on Optimal Calcium Intake.

For women 25 to 49 years of age, post-menopausal women on estrogen replacement therapy (ERT), and males 25 to 64 years of age, the recommended intake is 1,000 milligrams (mg) per day. For nursing mothers, post-menopausal women not on ERT, and men and women over 65, 1,500 mg of calcium per day is recommended.

For those who experience discomfort after consuming lactose-containing products, the following strategies may help achieve daily recommended calcium intakes:

- * Drink eight ounces or less of milk at a time and consume it as part of a meal or snack;
- * Try hard cheeses, such as Swiss or cheddar;
- * Eat yogurt;
- * Look for lactose-reduced or lactose-free products in the grocery store.

Agawam Chiropractor Dr. Tami Nelson Is Named 1996 "Young Careerist" In Business

Tami Nelson, an Agawam chiropractor who is self-employed, has been selected as the Springfield Business and Professional Women's 1996 Young Careerist.

Dr. Nelson is a wife, mother, small business owner, is active in the Agawam Chamber of Commerce and provides community information seminars on health issues.

The Young Careerist program honors women, under the age of 35, who have achieved success in career, education, or community work. This pro-

gram consists of a public speaking experience, application, and interview. YC is a national recognition program of BPW/USA.

Dr. Nelson will represent Springfield at a District competition in April with participants from seven Western Massachusetts BPW local organizations.

Information about the Business and Professional Women organization is available from Membership Chair Kimberly Kenney-Rockwal at 592-5683.

Please remember that our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon ... AAN!!!



Arts

Storowton Village Museum To Host Teachers' Workshop

Eastern States Exposition's Storowton Village Museum will host a workshop for teachers of grades four and five titled "Making the Math/Social Studies Connection" on Thursday, April 11th, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the historic village.

The program is designed for teachers who will learn about life in a New England village in the 1840's and engage in activities designed to show innovative ways to teach mathematics and social studies in classrooms for grades four and five.

The day begins with an orientation of Storowton Village Museum and its concept of working with schools to teach in a non-traditional format.

Instructional lectures include "The New England Farmer and the Yankee Calculator," a look at the economic infrastructure of early New England. An additional presentation will outline the requirements in teaching math at the middle-school level into the 21st century for children ages nine and 10.

Participants will experience Storowton Village Museum's innovative math program "Today's Math in Yesterday's Market."

The review includes: "Taking A Geometry Walk" - an exploration of the historic village and its geometric shapes and configurations found in its architecture; "Shopping The 19th Century Way" - the identification and computation of the value of 1850 merchandise, including the use of antique weighing and measuring tools; and "Stocking Mr. Potter's Shelves" - patterning skills using merchandise found in the Potter Mansion General Store.

A certificate of participation on completion of this workshop will be provided by the Museum. Past program participants have been granted in-service credit hours by their school systems.

For further information, call 737-2443.

All the local news with us, each week

Westfield Savings Donates To Symphony



SPRINGFIELD SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA MUSIC DIRECTOR Mark Russell Smith (center) "passes the baton" to Westfield Savings Bank President Donald A. Williams (right), in recognition of Williams' leadership role as "conductor" of fundraising and in recognition of the bank's contribution of \$15,000 in support of the Symphony's June 2nd Pops Concert in Westfield. Dr. Ronald Applebaum, president of Westfield State College, which will host the concert (left), is looking on.

Western Massachusetts Genealogical Society To Meet On April 3rd

The Western Massachusetts Genealogical Society will meet at the Connecticut Valley Historical Museum at the Springfield Quadrangle on April 3rd at 7:00 p.m.

John-Paul Boisvert, a Canadian researcher, will present a story of the hundreds of girls who were sponsored by King Louis of France to come to the New World. They became known as the "The King's Daughters."

As usual, the Museum will be open to members at 5:00 p.m. for genealogical research prior to the meeting. There is free parking behind the Museum, and guests are always welcome.

Olde Town Bagel To Add "Cruise Night" To Its Menu

Starting Thursday, April 4th, and continuing through the summer, Olde Town Bagel (located at 719 Main Street, Agawam) and the "CRANKERS" Antique Car Club will hold a weekly "Cruise Night" every Thursday evening at 6:00 p.m.

Two trophies will be awarded each week for Best Of Show, and the judging of the cars will be by the car owners that attend each week.

Food and beverages will be available, and 50's music will be provided for your entertainment.

Everyone is invited to show their Antique, Classic, Special Interest, Street Rod, or Vintage Car and enjoy this weekly event in the center of Agawam.

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- Adoptions
- Alimony
- Child Support
- Conservator
- Contempt
- Guardian
- Mediation
- Custody
- Prenuptial Agreements
- Modification
- Estates
- Restraining Orders
- Wills
- Paternity

786-2211

786-2211

**360 Springfield Street
Agawam**

Agawam Community Artists To Hold Meeting On April 3rd

The Agawam Community Artists is proud to announce that they'll be presenting artist Dean Waite at their April 3rd meeting. A short business meeting will start at 7:00 p.m., with a lecture/demonstration by Mr. Waite to follow.

Here's a quote from the December 1995 issue of "Soundings": "Dean Waite has done a lot of drawing in his career as an illustrator. The East Hampton, Connecticut resident has captured news events and celebrities, created magazine covers and posters, and has done technical illustrations on computers. Marine paintings remain among his favorites, and it all started with a number 2 pencil and a sketch pad, he says."

This meeting and lecture/demonstration are open to the public at no charge and will take place at the Captain Charles Leonard House. The Agawam Community Artists are under the auspices of the Agawam Cultural Council.

Due to bad weather, the March 6th meeting with a demonstration by Fran McCarthy had to be cancelled, but she is planning to come in for the Agawam Community Artists' May 1st meeting.

On June 5th, David Lussier, a Connecticut artist, will be giving a demonstration on oil painting. Lussier was recently featured in the "American Artist Magazine."

The Agawam Community Artists are most fortunate to have scheduled these three noted artists for their upcoming meetings, which are open to the public at no charge. Mark your calendars now and plan to attend!

STAGE Announces Openings For April Vacation Drama Camp

Applications are now being accepted for STAGE's upcoming April Vacation Drama Camp "THE DRAGON ON THE WINDS."

This adaptation of some ancient Japanese folktales written for the stage by Lyle Pearsons will be presented at THE RED DOOR THEATRE, 152 S. Westfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA on April 19th and 20th at 7:30 p.m., and April 20th and 21st at 2:00 p.m.

The drama camp for young people ages eight to 15 will operate during the week of April 15th-19th from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., and will involve set construction, costume making, and publicity, as well as rehearsing the roles for the play.

The play concerns a Japanese kite-maker whose rude behavior to the villagers gets him into trouble with some prankster gods. When the kite-maker deceives the local townsfolk by telling them that a dragon will rise from their nearby lake, everyone turns out to see it ... including the emperor! The kite-maker is suddenly caught in his own trap and must find a way out.

Applications for the camp may be requested by calling (413) 789-2026. The fee is \$125 and enrollment is limited.

Come spend your school vacation in "Japan"!

Check our classified ads every week for the best in local goods and services ...
ADVERTISER NEWS!!!

ACROSS

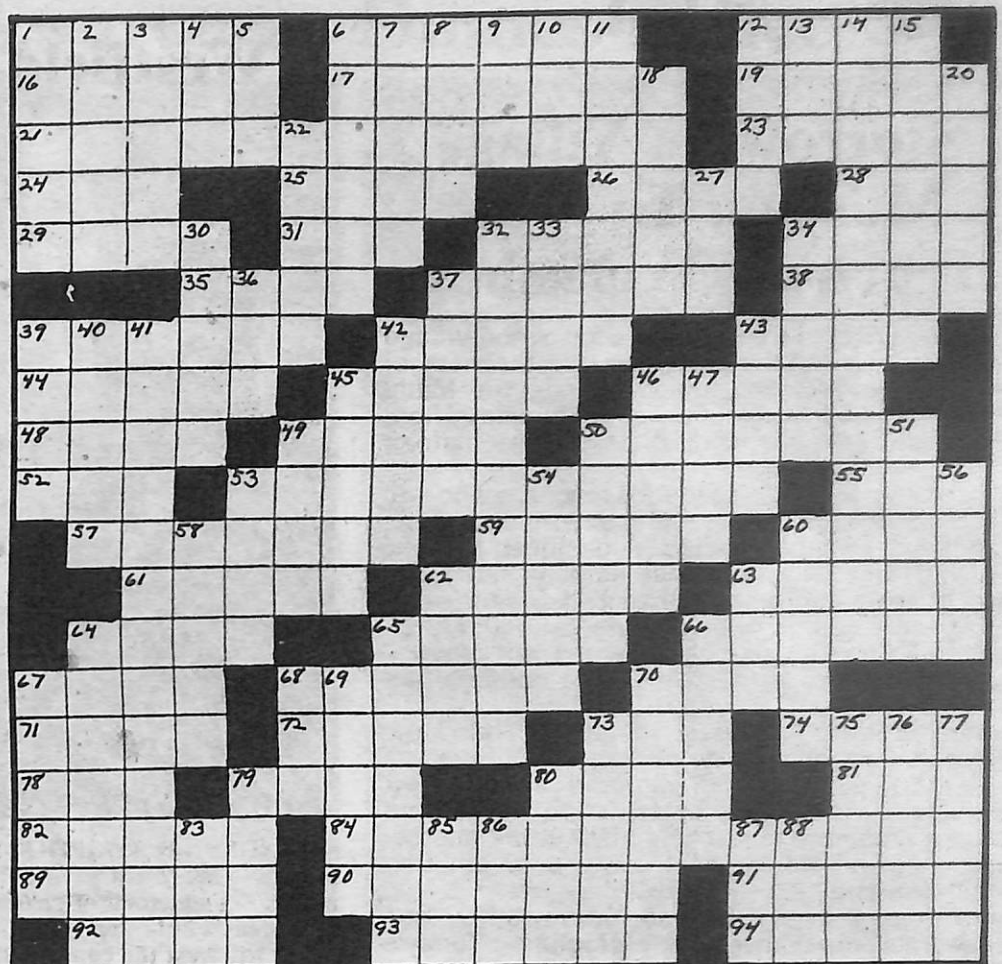
- 1 Punishment instrument
- 6 Joshed
- 12 Cupid
- 16 Follow closely
- 17 Did a cobbler's job
- 19 Stirred up
- 21 Dale Evans
- 23 "— and kicking"
- 24 G.I.'s mailing address
- 25 French friend
- 26 Bridge seat
- 28 Fido's doc
- 29 Cysts
- 31 A Stooge
- 32 Soprano Lind
- 34 Father
- 35 One of the "Witches of Eastwick"
- 37 Q.B. most of the time
- 38 Type of braid
- 39 Crater maker often
- 42 Famous Christo
- 43 Sit for an artist
- 44 "It's — way to..."
- 45 Street show
- 46 Hebrew lyres
- 48 Quality of sound
- 49 Dips
- 50 Part of the former U.S.S.R.
- 52 Culp/Cosby series with "I"
- 53 Vincent Minnelli
- 55 Haggard novel
- 57 Rich land holdings
- 59 Years
- 60 Tommy's weapon
- 61 Spoiled
- 62 Rose essence
- 63 Sam the golfer
- 64 Nude
- 65 Pale in color
- 66 Beets
- 67 "Stuck in —"
- 68 Washed
- 70 Mountain lake fish
- 71 Go ballistic
- 72 State vocally
- 73 "— Beta Kappa"
- 74 "I'm all —"
- 78 "— Kibbible"
- 79 Celebes' Ox
- 80 Container
- 81 Cambridge school
- 82 Chemical compound
- 84 Judy Garland
- 89 Encirclement
- 90 Acted in a surreptitious way
- 91 Explorer "La —"
- 92 Cupid
- 93 Guides
- 94 Cornered vertically?

- 15 Daydream of sorts
- 18 Silas the patriot
- 20 Hinder
- 22 Has more grit
- 27 Israel neighbor
- 30 Play segment
- 32 Peter Fonda
- 33 Noble Italian family
- 34 Sans hair
- 36 Selfish one
- 37 Skin openings
- 39 Place or floor items
- 40 Wed on the run
- 41 Jamie Lee
- 42 "— a wet hen"
- 43 In want
- 45 Knocked down
- 46 Happy (Biblical)
- 47 Female saints
- 49 Light as in a beer?
- 50 A famous Allen
- 51 In the lead
- 53 Tardy
- 54 Took steps
- 56 Completes
- 58 Bakery treat
- 60 Type of drum
- 62 Arthur of the courts
- 63 "— Na-Na"
- 64 Golf club
- 65 Reaches a goal
- 66 Hot seasoning
- 67 Zodiac sign
- 68 Hamburger holder
- 69 What physicists split
- 70 "Mere — play"
- 73 Whiter in color
- 75 What a miss is as good as
- 76 Garand or Springfield
- 77 Mount
- 79 God of war
- 80 Small dog

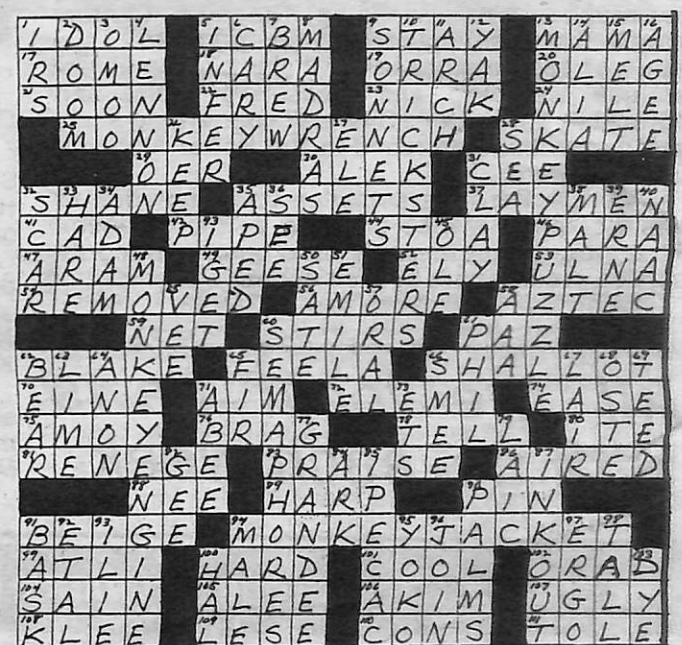
DOWN

- 1 It broke the camel's back
- 2 Figure of speech
- 3 Synthetic fabric
- 4 Traditional tune
- 5 Arafat's org.
- 6 Spasm
- 7 Outre
- 8 Cape fox of Africa
- 9 Plant seed
- 10 Yale man
- 11 The best offense?
- 12 "I smell —"
- 13 Cubic centimeter
- 14 Joan Fontaine

Meet The Master - by Dick Mastroianni



Last Week's Solution...



- 83 Often inflated item
- 85 Take home pay
- 86 Dundee no
- 87 Only lander
- 88 "— and Peace"

Who's that girl so cute and sporty?
It's...
Donna Bodurtha
who's turning 40!



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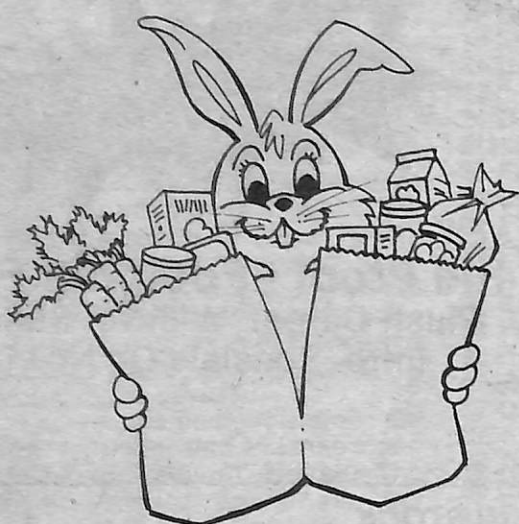
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Sweet Life 1% Low Fat Milk (Gallon)	\$1.99
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Grade "A" Chicken Legs	69¢ Lb.

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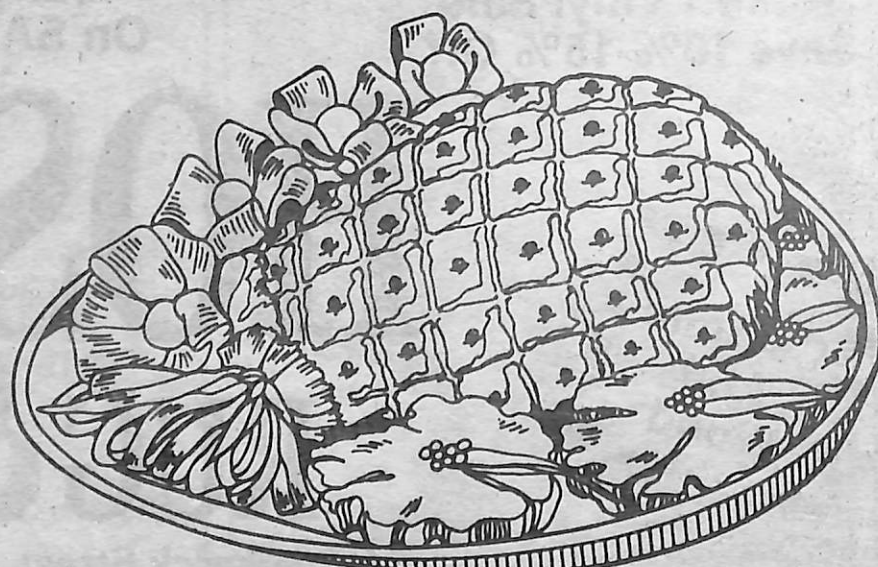
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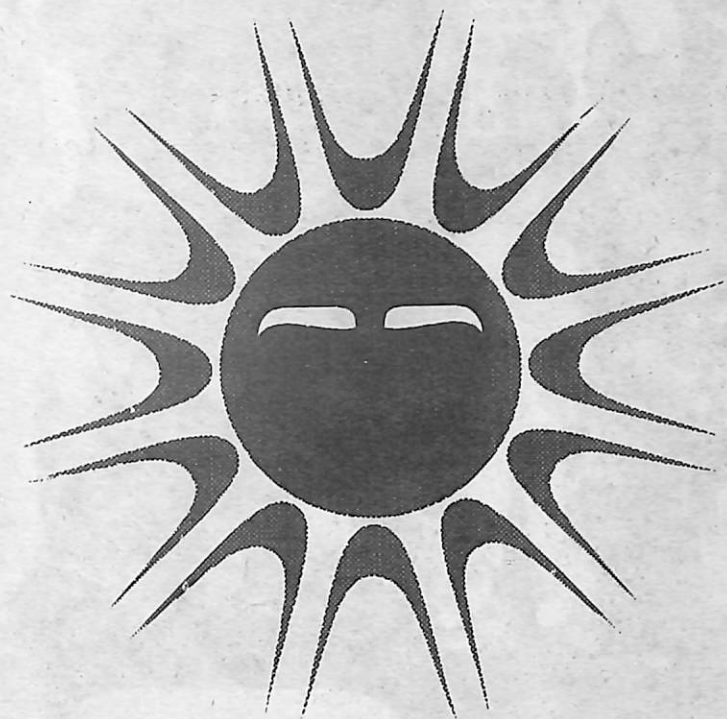
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KID'S KAMP

BY DAY OR BY WEEK at FITNESS FIRST
APRIL 15 - 19!

Let Fitness First entertain your children during this spring Vacation!
 Fitness First's Kid's Kamp will run the entire week of vacation April 15-19 for children of members and non-members from 10 am - 2 pm each day! You may pick and choose the days or sign them up for the whole week and save! They'll have a ball swimming and playing games - and even make a few new friends along the way!

\$90/week or \$20 per day for Fitness First members
 \$115/week or \$25 per day for non-members
 Discounts for multiple siblings available!

Swimming!
 Games!
 Exercise!

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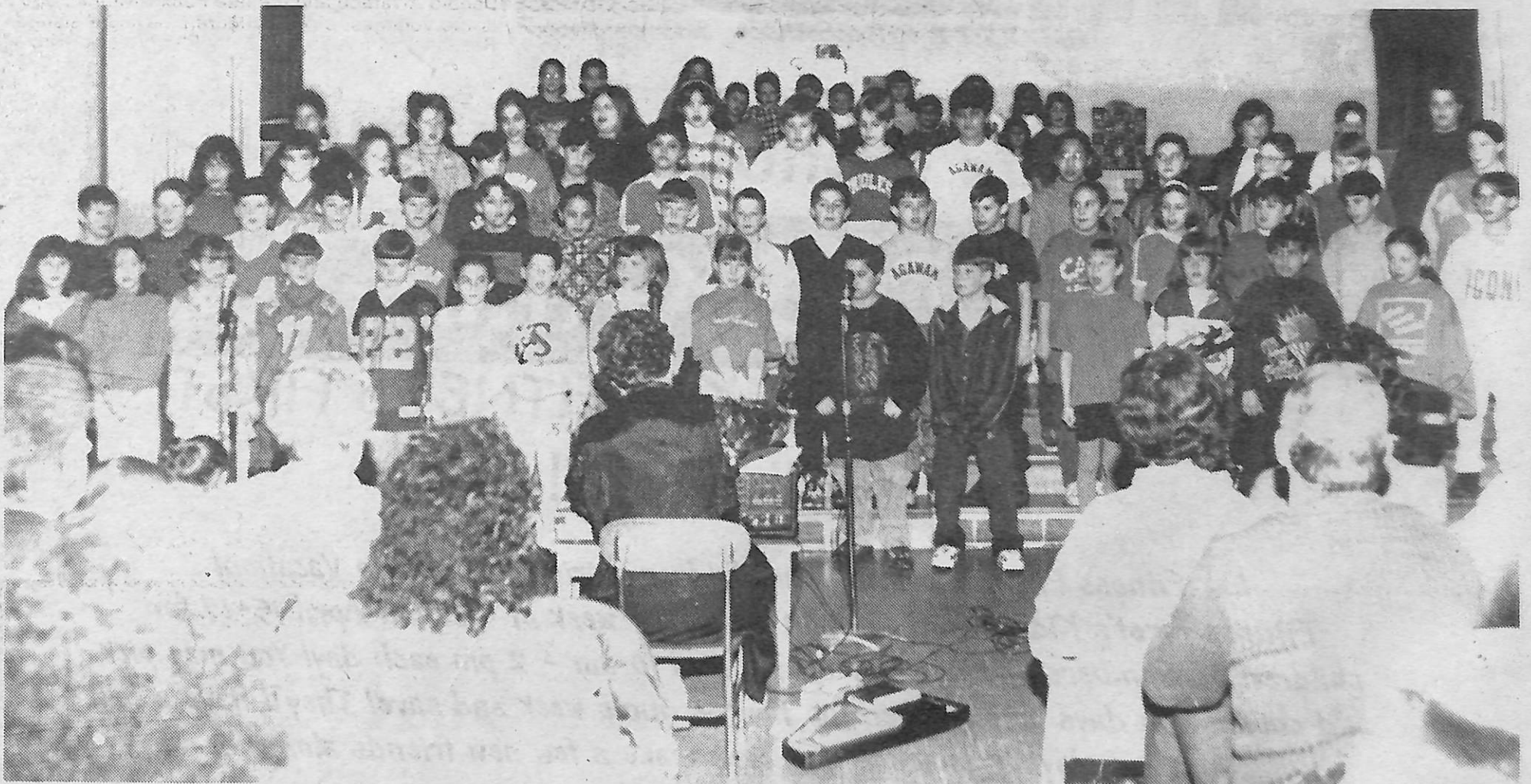
Applications available at Fitness First. Stop by or call 786-1460.
 Deadline for all applications is Thursday, April 11th.



Education



VOCAL MUSIC TEACHER SYLVIA STARKIE conducted an all-school musical revue celebrating the day off in the life of a kid. The program featured all grades, kindergarten through fourth. The program delighted all who attended. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



"It's Saturday" - All-Musical Revue At Clark School

"It's Saturday!" by Mac Huff and John Jacobson (an all-school musical revue celebrating a day off in the life of a kid) was recently presented to students of Clark School.

Directed by Mrs. Sylvia Starkie, vocal music teacher, the program featured all grades, kindergarten through fourth, and the following actors:

Kid no. 1: **Anthony Rueli**; Kid no. 2: **Robert Reed**; Kent: **Timothy Lawler**; Kid no. 4: **Robert Taupier**;

Kid no. 5: **Steven Forni**; Kerry: **Heather Burgen**; Sherry: **Christina Metcalf**; Steve: **Richard Gonyea**; Gary: **Matthew Greco**.

Also, Karen: **Jillian Perry**; Jeffrey: **Roger Martin**; Kevin: **Patrick Coffey**; Joanie: **Heidi Santana**; Kathy: **Catherine Bitzas**; Judy: **Alicia Linder**; Dale: **Amy Henrickson**; Debbie: **Mary Zajac**; Piano Man: **Cote Rice**; Mother: **Sara Dorans**.

"Slumber Speakers" were **John Montalvo**, **Kendall Hill**, and **Thomas Wezniak**. "Toon Time" was

presented by **Nicole Wilk**.

Vocal solos were performed by **Carrie Martin**, **Kelly Follis**, **Robert Ventulett**, **Brendan Cavanaugh**, **Steven Forni**, **Catherine Bitzas**, **Heidi Santana**, **Carolyn Fontaine**, **Alexandra Ivy**, **Nicole Struck**, and **Emily Lathrop**, with a piano solo presented by **Robert Ventulett**.

Understudies were **Cody Clearwater** and **Marc Ferretti**.

All the local news with us, every week — AAN!

Good Dental Health



FEEDING HILLS DENTIST Dr. Michael Calabrese recently spoke to students at Phelps School about good dental health. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Storytime At Early Childhood Center



FEEDING HILLS RESIDENT Lu Parchick recently appeared at the Agawam Early Childhood Center to treat the kids to a storytime. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Stephen P. Decoteau Earns Book Award At Alfred University

Stephen P. Decoteau, son of Patrick and Donna Decoteau of Feeding Hills, was recently notified that he has been selected as this year's recipient of the **Phi Kappa Phi Sophomore Book Award**.

The award falls to a different school or college of Alfred University each year, and is granted to the sophomore within that unit with the best academic record.

This prize is a book (or books) of the recipient's choice to be presented to, and formal recognition of the award at **Alfred University's Honors Convocation** to be held on Friday, April 19, 1996, when he will be also inducted into the **Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society**.

On April 11th, Decoteau is to be inducted into the Sigma Tau Chapter of **Phi Sigma Iota**. Phi Sigma Iota is a national history society in the foreign languages, with chapters in more than 60 colleges and universities.

Open only to advanced undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty, the society's purpose is to foster study in the foreign languages and literatures to promote better intercultural understanding.

A 1993 graduate of AHS, he is a dual major in Physics and French with minors in Mathematics and Astronomy.

Decoteau, who spent his senior year at AHS as an AFS Intercultural Exchange Student to Mexico, is scheduled to complete his upcoming academic year as a foreign language student at the University of Quebec at Chicoutimi, Canada.



MELODY ALVARADO

Melody Alvarado "Artist Of Month" At Agawam High

The Agawam High School "Artist of the Month" for February is Melody Alvarado, the daughter of Debbie Alvarado and the late Felix Alvarado. She is the youngest of four children, having a sister, Rosealla, who is 25, and two older brothers, Hector (23), and Jour (21). Her cat, "Gismo," is seven years-old and serves as a good companion.

Debbie, a junior, has always loved doing art-work and as a child in Mastic Beach, New York, remembers decorating her mother's cookbook with colored pens and the walls with crayons.

In high school, Melody has taken Crafts, Drawing, and Painting, and is presently in her second year of Pottery with Miss Frances Messina. She enjoys the feel of clay in this class and being able to make a variety of different useable items by hand and on the potter's wheel. English and science are also high on her list of favorite courses.

She works at the "Foot Locker," but still has time for a boyfriend. She hopes her senior year will be filled with surprises.

Artists of the Month from the Junior High are Danielle Stenkiewicz (Grade 7), a student of Mr. Andrew Kraus, and Douglas Donaldson, a eighth grade student of Mrs. Debora Florek.

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Volleyball Tournament Held At Phelps School



SECOND PLACE WINNERS in the recent Phelps School Volleyball Tournament included, back row - Jeff Gaulin, Santino Alfano, Krista Bertolozzi, and Adam Astle. Front row - Ashley Lynch, Alissa Tully, and Ashley Niquette. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



FIRST PLACE WINNERS in the recent Phelps School volleyball tournament were, back row - Nick Pandolfi, Patrick Desmond, Jeremy Provost, Jason Quigley, Felicia Tran, and Kristin Bushey. Front row - Amanda Bruno and Danyel Morace. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Agawam Schools' Weekly Lunch Menu

Monday, April 1st: Oven-baked chicken nuggets, steamed rice, sweet peas & diced carrots, honey & dipping sauce, wheat bread & butter, chilled pineapple tidbits, milk.

Tuesday, April 2nd: Hamburg in roll, oven potato puffs, mustard, relish, catsup, seasoned green beans, lemon pudding with topping, milk.

Wednesday, April 3rd: Baked hamburger & macaroni with tomato sauce, creamy cabbage salad, Italian bread & butter, apple crisp, milk.

Thursday, April 4th: Veal patty parmesan sandwich, seasoned niblet corn, rosy applesauce, jello with whipped topping, milk. (Alternate: Grilled cheese sandwich.)

Friday, April 5th: Good Friday (no school).

* **REMINDER:** Elementary lunch is \$1. Tickets **must be purchased** on Mondays for the week. Personal checks are accepted, payable to: **The Agawam School Lunch.**

Ag. High School's Calendar For April

April 1st: "Le Poisson d'avril" in French classes.

April 12th: S.A.V.E. Fair.

April 17th: Jr./Sr. Prom - Chez Josef.

April 20th: "As Schools Match Wits" 7:30 p.m., Channel 22.

April 22nd-26th: "Shakespeare Society" celebrates Shakespeare Week.

April 25th: Vaudeville 1996.

GUIDANCE:

** Junior College Night at AHS.

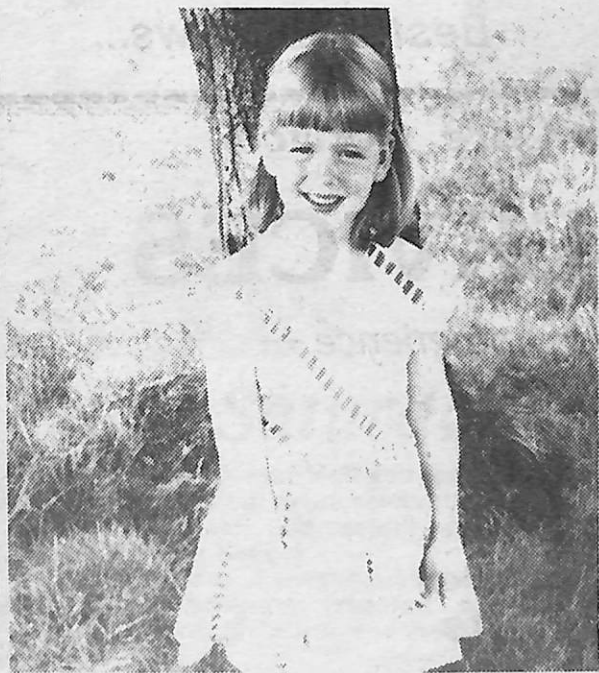
(** Date to be announced)

AHS Has Sent Out Warning Notices

A notice to parents: Warning notices were issued to students of Agawam High School on Friday, March 22, 1996.

NO ONE covers all the hometown news like us, each week
ADVERTISER NEWS

Happy Sweet 16 Heather



Love,
Mom, Dad and Geoffrey

Drs. Joseph M. & Katherine S. Schlaffer



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For An Appointment—Call 789-1369 Or 789-1073

Serving The Agawam Area For 15 Years

St. Patrick's Day Celebration At Robinson Park



ROBINSON PARK student Kelsi Watkins delighted the audience with an authentic Irish jig on St. Patrick's Day at Robinson Park School. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Early Childhood Ctr. To Learn About Physical Disabilities

Youngsters at Agawam Early Childhood Center in Agawam will learn about physical disabilities during the week of April 2nd through a special Easter Seal program, sponsored by T J Maxx, WB56, WWLP-TV22, and Business Equipment Depot.

The Easter Seal HOP-N-ING teaches children about the causes of disabilities and their effects on people's everyday lives. The children also find out how wheelchairs, crutches, and other specialized equipment work.

The next part of HOP-N-ING gives the kids a chance to help. They hop as many times as they can in three minutes, earning money pledged for each hop by family and friends. Funds raised help provide Easter Seal services that expand independence for men, women, and children with disabilities. Services include summer camp, therapeutic swim programs, home health care, physical and occupational therapy, speech therapy, equipment loan, technology for independence, support groups for people recovering from strokes, and information and referral services.

Last year, nearly 16,000 children across Massachusetts learned about disabilities and hopped for Easter Seals, raising \$212,000.



ROBINSON PARK STUDENTS performed a St. Patrick's Day musical to celebrate the big day on Wednesday, March 13th. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



IF YOU WISH TO SUBSCRIBE, please call us at 786-7747 or 786-8137. We open weekdays at 6:30 a.m. Thanks.

CH Records Presents Benefit CD Release Concert Mr. "Papa" C

Thursday,
April 4, 1996

7:30 P.M.

Agawam Junior
High School



w/"Peace by Peace"

Featuring Agawam High's
Confloyd McGinty

Proceeds to benefit the Agawam Music Department

Tickets available
from Agawam High
School, 789-1400,
Ext. 410

or

Topper's Ice Cream
& Olde Towne Bagel

DARKER IMAGE

303A Walnut Street, Agawam
789-0489

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M-F	1 Year Unlimited \$300.00	NAILS
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	25 Sessions \$75.00	
Sat.	18 Sessions \$54.00	Fill
	9 Sessions \$32.00	
9:00 - 6:00 PM	1 Session \$5.00	\$17.00
Sun.		Manicure
12:00 - 5:00 PM		

NEW UP TO DATE BEDS & BULBS

FULL LINE OF TANNING PRODUCTS
SWIM & ACTIVE WEAR

\$12.00

Bubble Mania...



STUDENTS WHO ATTEND THE EARLY CHILDHOOD Center were recently treated to "Bubble Mania" by Casey Carle (top) and Ed Popielarczyk (pictured with student Nichole Pelletier). Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



Local Students Attain Dean's List Standing At Various Colleges

The following colleges and universities have announced that students from Agawam and Feeding Hills have been named to their respective Dean's Lists:

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST
FROM AGAWAM: Philip G. Dromey, 6C Castle Hill Rd.; Derrick D. Gregor, 91 Oak Hill Ave.; and Nicole L. Pajer, 400 Cooper St.

FROM FEEDING HILLS: Kristin N. Alechny, 99 Thalia Dr.; Karen J. Bottasso, 21 Princeton Ave.; Steven W. Freeman, 68 Bessbrook St.; Lisa J. Messenger, 391 Poplar St.; Renee M. Robitaille, 602 Springfield St.; and Jason T. Rosati, 106 Barbara Lane.

CLARK UNIVERSITY
Timothy E. LeDoux of Agawam.

MERRIMACK COLLEGE
Ryan D. Henderson of 33 Tom Street, Feeding Hills, a freshman civil engineering major; and Dina D. DeMarco of 34 Stony Hill Road, Feeding Hills, a freshman biology major.

THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA
Debra Parslow, a sophomore majoring in civil engineering and the daughter of Joe and Janet Parslow of Poplar Street, Feeding Hills.

WESTFIELD STATE COLLEGE
Travis W. Chaput, a senior history major and the son of David A. and Lois S. Chaput of Agawam.

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES
THE UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT

Christopher S. Berthiaume of Agawam.

WESTERN NEW ENGLAND COLLEGE
FROM AGAWAM: Benjamin S. Ferris, Christine M. Filkoski, Cristina M. Ianello, Michael R. Kislewski, Paul M. Klisiewicz, Jennifer L. Nardi, and Linda M. Porowski.

FROM FEEDING HILLS: Mark W. Brittain, Matthew J. Christy, David A. DeSimone, Cheryl M. LaChance, Jason A. Malek, Sean C. Szczygiel, and Arrecia A. Ward.

PROVIDENCE COLLEGE
Susan Christian of 78 Valentine Street, Agawam (major: marketing); and Jamie Lewis of 28 Garden Street, Feeding Hills (major: elementary/spec. education).

M.E.A.P. Testing Is Conducted At AHS

The Massachusetts Educational Assessment Program Test, famously known as the M.E.A.P., was tentatively scheduled to start at Agawam High School on Monday, March 25th.

The 10th graders were to be tested in their English class for four consecutive days, with additional testing to follow. English, Science and Technology, Math, and Social Studies were the four areas to be tested.

The Academic Coordinators in those areas were instructed to make sure that their department addressed this important test. The school would also like the support of parents.

"Parents need to stress the importance of this test to their child, as it has the potential to impact their child's graduation," stated Joseph Zabielski, AHS's Acting Principal. "Please make sure your child is well-rested, alert, properly fed, and motivated to succeed. It is imperative that your child avoid absenteeism or tardiness, as this may have a negative impact on the test situation."

"Remember," continued Zabielski, "positive test results do not happen by accident. It requires the determined effort of everyone."



GIRL SCOUTS

THE GIRL SCOUTS

AS GREAT AS YOU WANT TO MAKE IT

Phelps Brownie Troop No. 582 has had a busy two months. First, we did our Investiture and Rededication in February. We learned our promise and our laws. We also wrote and memorized this poem:

WE ARE

We are Brownie Troop 582 going to meetings
Going to meetings is fund to do,
We try to follow laws every day,
By helping others in different ways.
Safety is one of the things we learned,
Different badges are what we earned.
We sell cookies from door-to-door.
We do things to help the poor.
We learn games and sing songs,
With other Scouts we get along.
We pay dues and take attendance every week
We like camping and will hike
to the highest peaks.
This year we fly up to Junior Girl Scouts,
These are the things that being a Brownie
is all about.

We are Brownie Troop 582,
We're happy to share this poem with you.
It is busy being a Girl Scout. From Brownie troop No. 582. This article was written by Meaghan Lewis, Jennifer Montagna, and Lauren Liberte.

Brownie Troop No. 585 from Granger School has been very busy this year. We have gone on several field trips: Fitness First, Pell Farms, and McDonald's, to name a few.

Our Brownies have worked hard and had fun earning a couple of Try-Its. We made hand-painted T-shirts for the "Art-to-Wear" Try-It. We recently had fun making marionette puppets for the "Puppet" Try-It.

Two "Mystery Writers" from Cadette Troop No. 552 wrote this article themselves:

This year, we are working on the "Folk Art Interest Project" patch. For the patch, we made good luck symbols from the Pennsylvania Dutch country. We have also made corn husk dolls for the Open Pantry-Child program. Next, we made homemade cornbread and butter. We are also working on other projects for it.

We are the sponsor of the "Tab Collection" for 35 Agawam Girl Scout Troops. At the Heritage Hall Nursing Home, we made the residents February birthday bulletin board. Our future plans are to go camping.

A Special note of thanks goes out to the Penfield Productions, Ltd. Company (and Cindy Paro, from Daisy Troop No. 566) from the entire Agawam Unit of Girl Scouts. This fine company generously donated not only their time and the cassette tapes, but the voice-over introductions and tape duplicating for the G.S. Leaders Song Workshop held on February 8, 1996.

A total of 40 cassette tapes filled with fun songs were made and distributed to the Girls Scout Troops of the Agawam Unit. Your gift and support of your local Girl Scout Unit are greatly appreciated!!

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New Flag Is Coming... Perfect Attendance For After-School Program



BROWNIE GIRL SCOUT Lauren Liberte from Troop 582 at Phelps School recently received her reply from U.S. Congressman Richard Neal for a new flag at her school.



THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS at the Agawam Middle School had perfect attendance at the "Keep The Body Moving Program" held after school. Each student was presented a trophy. Back row, from left - Hilda Bartnik (school nurse), Kevin Baptiste, Danielle Brown, Michelle Churchill, William Clark, Matthew Couture, Benjamin Crumb, Richard Bertram, and Physical Education teacher Leslie Martel. Kneeling - Stella Knapik, Anne Kiforishina, Eric Harris, Marci Meunier, Angeline Simone, Kathleen Waters, and Laura Zerra. Advertiser

News photo by Jack Devine.

Melconian Says Savings Plan For College To Continue Until April 30

Senate Assistant Majority Leader Linda J. Melconian (D-Springfield) has announced the enrollment period for the U. PLAN, **The Massachusetts College Savings Program**, will continue until April 30th.

The U. PLAN is a state-sponsored savings program that allows families to lock in tomorrow's tuition at today's rates at 75 participating colleges and universities in Massachusetts. Under the U. PLAN, families can either make a lump-sum purchase with a minimum of \$300 per year or establish a monthly installment plan for as little as \$25 per month, at any Fleet Bank branch.

The investment is used to purchase Commonwealth-issued bonds representing a fixed percentage of tuition that will be guaranteed by participating colleges and universities regardless of future tuition increases.

The U. PLAN offers competitive rates of return compared with other savings alternatives. For example, a family in the 28 percent federal income tax bracket who invests \$1,000 per year in the U. PLAN will have accumulated an estimated

\$24,200 in 15 years, nearly \$6,000 more than they would have earned in a savings account. This same amount of money invested in a stock and bond portfolio would generate a similar return as the U. PLAN, but there is more risk involved.

Should an investor's child not attend a participating school, the investor will receive the U. PLAN investment back with tax-free interest back compounded annually at a rate based upon the Consumer Price Index (CPI)—a rate of return is higher than the investor would have received from savings, whose income is subject to state and federal income taxes.

The U. PLAN is administered by the Massachusetts Educational Financing Authority (MEFA) on behalf of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and participating public and private colleges and universities. The program is available exclusively at Fleet Bank.

For further information or to receive a free enrollment kit, call 1-800-449-MEFA or visit any Fleet Bank branch.

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Handicap Awareness Presented To Kids At Robinson Park

Recently, fourth graders at Robinson Park School participated in the annual Handicap Awareness Program. Each grade level learns about a different type of disability. In grade four, the topic was physical disabilities.

PTO volunteers performed a puppet show about a boy with cerebral palsy and guided the students through a variety of activities. The students tried walkers, crutches, and wheelchairs.

They experienced the frustration of using a communication board and trying to button a shirt with diminished manual dexterity.

The guest speaker, Agawam native Nancy Bazanchuk, skillfully answered all of the students' questions.

At Robinson, other topics covered by this program include visual impairment, mental retardation, and hearing impairment. Without the volunteers, these worthwhile programs would not be possible.



A HANDICAP AWARENESS PROGRAM was presented recently to students at Robinson Park School. From left - Nancy Bazanchuk, Gay McDyer, Chris Demetron, Sue Corbin, Colleen Mutti, Jan Lapins, Debbie Davignon, Joan Couture, and Marlene Chretien. Advertiser

News photo by Jack Devine.



AHS Guidance...

by Judith Cohen
Acting Director
AHS Guidance Dept.

Many Interesting Things...

There are so many interesting things that are happening that I want to share with you.

We are so lucky at the high school to have a very dedicated group of people running the Student Assistance Program. Cathy Hallaman, Jack Dougherty, and Jane Williams have been working diligently to set up programs at the high school to benefit and address the needs of so many students.

Every Thursday morning before school there is breakfast in the cafeteria. Students can buy bagels, coffee, juice, muffins, and donuts. Talking to some participants, I found out that they look forward to Thursday mornings where they can grab a quick bite and mingle with their friends. The monies raised at these breakfasts help defray important programs for our students.

Two groups have been set up. Already in progress is the Bereavement Group for students who have lost a parent. Rob Zucker, formerly of Baystate Medical Center, is a social worker who specializes in grief counseling. Currently, eight students are participating in the program which meets once a week for six weeks. The cost was underwritten by Curran Jones Funeral Home and the Agawam High School Student Assistance Program.

The other group, the Divorce Group, is in its incipient stage. The Agawam Counseling Center will be facilitating a group for students experiencing the divorce of parents. Underwritten by the Student Assistance Program and organized with the help of the Guidance Department, the group will meet once a week for six weeks and will be comprised of 10 students.

These groups provide the opportunity for students to air their concerns and to deal with their emotions in a nurturing, non-threatening environment. They learn that they are not alone with their feelings, that help is there for them, and that they will not walk this difficult journey alone.

A Scholarship Fair was held March 14th and was hosted by the Guidance Department. Over 60 local organizations sent representatives to

disseminate information and forms concerning their scholarships. About 175 Seniors came through the door to obtain forms which they must fill out according to the indicated deadlines. Hats off to this community! You people are incredible. Through your generosity, many of our students will be able to attend colleges that would have been out of their reach. Thank you all!

Attention all parents with pre-school and elementary children! The U. Plan is out. Lock in tomorrow's tuition for college at today's rates. The U. Plan is a state-sponsored college savings program available exclusively through Fleet Bank. The Plan enables you to pre-pay up to 100 percent of future tuition at today's prices. If your child decides not to attend one of the sponsor schools, you will receive your money back plus interest at the consumer price index rate. For a free information kit or to enroll by phone, please call 1-800-449-6332.

Many colleges and programs have been sending us information about exciting summer school programs. For instance, a youngster could go to American University in Washington and learn about American government and policy making, broadcast journalism, or a myriad of other subjects. Please see a guidance counselor for additional information.

I am pleased to announce that College Tours is underway! This newly formed company is offering tours to various colleges. Students and their parents will visit students in the area and be able to find out first-hand the characteristics, offerings, and other important information concerning the colleges. Many area school systems are taking advantage of this great opportunity. For more information, see a guidance counselor or call 1-800-658-4800.

On April 25th, we will be having a Junior Night for parents. Circle this date on your calendars now. It's an important night that should not be missed. Information will be disseminated about college and post high school planning.

Warnings at the High School were issued on March 22nd. Please discuss them with your children. Your concern and help is appreciated and will go a long way in helping your child reach his/her potential.

GUIDANCE BULLETIN
COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES - Congratulations!
Jason DeGray, Boston University; Jennifer

Giroux, Boston University; Dan Watson, Central Bible College; Christy Dubay, University of Vermont, Bridgewater State; Jeff Harlin, Westfield State; Mark Anderson, STCC; Kristine Sisk, STCC; Cecily Rivest, STCC; Eliann Dickinson, HCC; Jill Osowski, Westfield State.

Erica Pratt, Westfield State; Melissa Fleming, Merrimack; Christian DeBonville, Ithaca, Syracuse; Jason Ellsworth, HCC; Coleen Rego, HCC; David McCarthy, North Adams State; Derek Benton, Unity; Andrea LeBlanc, STCC; Janell Erskine, STCC; Justin Casinghino, Hartt School of Music; David DelloRusso, HCC; Jason Reed, Westfield State; Nicholas Davio, UMass Dartmouth, Quinnipiac, University of New Hampshire, Marist, Western New England.

SCHOLARSHIPS - See your counselor for more information.

Francis "Hawk" Connery Award - This award is presented to an outstanding male and female scholastic/basketball athlete. It is based on 60 percent academics and 40 percent athletics. Deadline: May 15, 1996.

Zonta Young Women in Public Affairs Award - This award was established to encourage secondary school women to enter careers or seek leadership positions in social policy making, government, and volunteer organizations. Deadline: April 19, 1996.

National Transportation Week Essay Contest - Open to any high school senior in Massachusetts who plans to attend college this fall. Applicants should be ranked in the top third of the class and participate in at least one extracurricular activity. Deadline: April 5, 1996.

Navy ROTC Scholarship - This scholarship can be applied to over 100 colleges and universities nationwide. To qualify, a student must be a U.S. citizen, 17 years of age by September 1st of the year starting college, a high school graduate, physically qualified in accordance with Navy standards, and accepted to a college which has a NROTC affiliation. Minimum scores of the SAT must be 530 Verbal and 520 Math.

OPEN HOUSES - See your counselor for more information.

Southern Vermont College - April 13th, 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

New Hampshire College - April 13th.

Bryant College - April 19th, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

PLEASE REMEMBER that our deadline is every Tuesday at noontime. We open at 6:30 a.m.

THE X-CLUB

BY JOHN CONANT

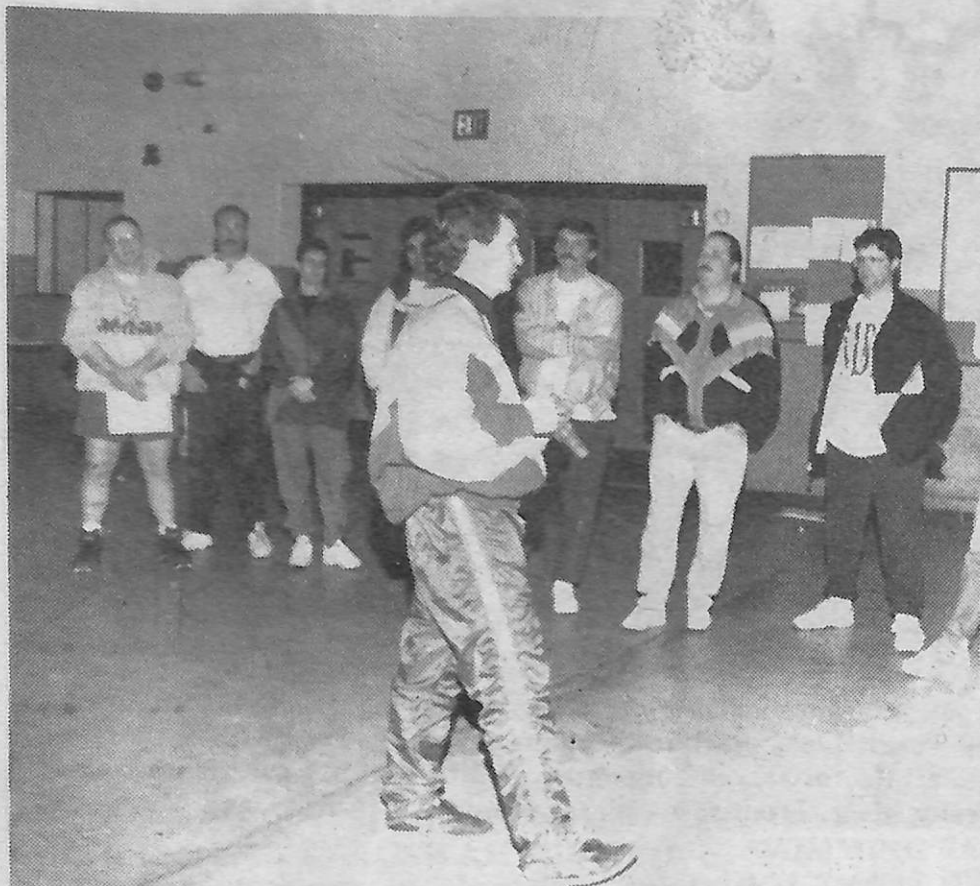


TO BE CONTINUED...



Sports

Soccer Coaches Attend Local Clinic



COACHES IN THE AGAWAM SOCCER ASSOCIATION'S spring Pioneer Valley Program attended a Coaches' Clinic held at the National Guard Armory on March 14th in preparation for the upcoming spring season. IN PHOTO LEFT, Agawam High boys' varsity soccer Coach Dwight Northrup gives a few pointers; IN PHOTO RIGHT, pictured are Scott Skolnick, Jim Rudy, Dwight Northrup, and Denny Marr. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



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Moosehead Beer - \$14.79 Plus Dep.

Rolling Rock (Bottles) - \$14.99 Plus Dep.

Beck's, St. Pauli Girl, and Killian's Red (12 Pk.) - \$9.99 Plus Dep.



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Sutter Home White Zinfandel (1.5 L) - \$7.99

Gallo Wine (3 L) - \$6.99

Inglénook Wine (3 L) - \$7.99



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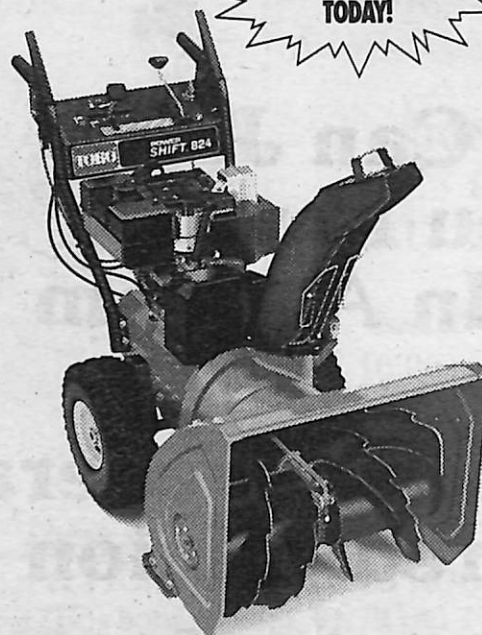
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7th-8th Grade Girls' Suburban Hoop Wins Szlachetka Tourney

The 7th and 8th grade Suburban Girls' Basketball Team, coached by Harold Cote and assisted by Denn Marr, recently won the Third Annual Ed "Szlats" Szlachetka Memorial Basketball Tournament. The girls played four games, winning all of them.

On Wednesday, March 13th, they played West Springfield. On Friday, March 15th, they played East Longmeadow. Winning both games brought them to the semi-finals on Saturday, March 16th.

The semi-final game was against Ware, MA. Both teams were very fast, but Agawam came out the victor.

On to the finals later that day, it was Agawam versus Westfield for the championship. This game was a great game to watch as both teams ran well with the ball and defense played a most important role.

At one point in the game, Agawam was only ahead by two points. But the Agawam girls poured it on and broke away to end up winning 38-31. What a great way to end the season of basketball.

Also, the girls won the Northampton Basketball Tournament (held at Smith College on February 17th) by outplaying a team from Springfield. Great going, girls!

The team members are Jill Gendron, Jen Lyman, Jenn Marr, Kerry McGeoghan, Kaitlin White, Amanda Tilden, Katherine Shannon, Sheri Benton, Sarah Lottermoser, Pam Gervais, and Jamie Bielanko.

For copies of his photos in this edition, please call Jack Devine at 789-0053; he has all the negatives and will be glad to help you. Thank you!!!



MEMBERS OF THE Agawam Suburban girls' 7th-8th grade basketball team recently won the Szlachetka Memorial Tournament. Back row - Jamie Bielanko, Katie White, Amanda Tilden, Katie Shannon, Sheri Benton, Sarah Lottermoser, Pam Gervais, Coach Harold Cote and Assistant Coach Denny Marr. Front row - Jill Gendron, Jen Lyman, Jenn Marr, and Kerry McGeoghan.

Crankers Antique Car Club Of Agawam To Hold 5th Annual Spring Poker Run

On Sunday, April 14th, the "CRANKERS" Antique Car Club of Agawam will hold its Fifth Annual Spring Poker Run.

The Poker Run will start at EB's Restaurant, 385 Walnut Street Extension, Agawam, with registration from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. We will travel through surrounding towns and back to EB's Restaurant for an "All You Can Eat Chicken and Spaghetti Dinner."

Everyone with an Antique, Classic, Special In-

terest, Street Rod, or Vintage Car is invited to join us for a day of fun and good food. Dinner will be served family style at 12:30 p.m.

Trophies will be awarded for Best Poker Hand, Best Time, and Best Mileage Guess.

Dinner tickets are \$8.50 per person; send your check to "CRANKERS" Antique Car Club, P.O. Box 172, Agawam, MA 01001.

For more information and reservations, call (413) 786-0014.

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Sale price and rebate good on minimum case purchase. One rebate per family, per address. Details in store.

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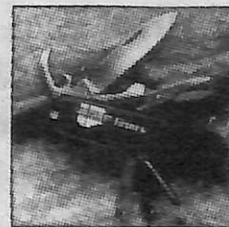
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AHS Girls' Swimming Hold Banquet



MEMBERS OF THE AGAWAM HIGH GIRLS' SWIMMING TEAM held their season-ending banquet recently at Alexander's Restaurant in Feeding Hills. IN PHOTO LEFT -Coach Lynn Modzelesky is pictured with senior Rachel Niemiec, who will be sorely missed by the program next year; IN PHOTO RIGHT, Mrs. Modzelesky is pictured with this year's team captains - Kristine Modzelesky and Rachel Niemiec. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

Turnverein Gymnasts Score Well Against Regional Competition

The Springfield Turn-Verein, located at 176 Garden Street in Agawam, recently hosted a gymnastics meet along with gymnasts from Adams and Clinton, MA, and Providence, RI.

Over 90 gymnasts competed with 22 gymnasts from Agawam, Feeding Hills, Springfield, and West Springfield representing the Springfield Turn-Verein. The gymnasts range in age from seven to 15 and compete at a five to eight skill level.

The results of the March 2nd meet for the local gymnasts were:

* Boys 10 and older (lower level):

Phillip Prouty, first on rings, second all-around and on vault and parallel bars; Billy Cochran, second on rings and third all-around and on floor exercises; Travis Varelas, third on vault and high bar, fourth all-around.

* Girls eight and under (lower level):

Paige Roberts, first on floor.

* Girls eight and under (upper level):

Erika Prouty, first on vault, balance beam, uneven bars, and all-around, second on floor; Laura Cote, first on floor, second on vault, balance beam, uneven bars, and all-around.

* Girls nine to 11 (lower level):

Sara Lynn Cote, fourth place on vault; Susan Michalak, sixth place on vault; Brittany Taylor, fourth place on floor exercise.

* Girls nine to 11 (intermediate):

Nicole Baginski, first on uneven bars, second all-around, third on floor and balance beam, fourth on vault; Rachel Schwartz, third on uneven bars and vault, fourth on floor; Jackie Motyl, second on vault, floor, and balance beam.

* Girls 12 to 14 (lower level):

Stephanie Harnois, fourth on balance beam; Alana Varelas, third on balance beam.

* Girls 12 to 14 (intermediate):

Maryann Connor, third on floor, fourth on balance beam, sixth on uneven bars and all-around.

* Girls 12 to 14 (upper level):

Michelle Cote, second on vault, floor, and uneven bars, third on balance beam and all-around; Amanda Peters, first on uneven bars, second all-around and balance beam, third on vault and floor.

* Girls 15 and older (upper level):

Jessica Hansen, first on balance beam, second all-around and uneven bars, sixth on vault and floor.

Games And Lanes INDOOR SOCCER LEAGUES

(Standings As Of March 24th)

U-11 GIRLS	W	L	T	P
East Longmeadow	4	1	0	8
West Springfield Blue	4	1	0	8
Agawam Tigers	3	3	0	6
West Springfield White	2	3	0	4
Our Lady Of Hope	0	5	0	0

U-10 GIRLS	W	L	T	P
Northampton	4	0	1	9
Holyoke	4	0	1	9
Lent's Landscaping	2	3	1	5
Westfield Breeze	2	3	1	5
Ludlow Strike Force	2	3	0	4
Ludlow Raptors	0	5	0	0

U-9 BOYS	W	L	T	P
Agawam Attack	4	0	1	9
Holyoke D&S Plating	3	1	1	7
East Longmeadow	1	4	0	2
Westfield	1	4	0	2

U-17 BOYS HIGH SCHOOL DIVISION	W	L	T	P
Razors	2	1	0	4
Holyoke Soccer Club	2	1	0	4
Bruno's	2	1	0	4
Westfield	0	3	0	0

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The Agawam Soccer Association will be holding

SIGN-UPS for FALL SOCCER

March 30, 1996
10:00am - 2:00pm
Agawam Middle School

These sign-ups are for both

IN-TOWN & PIONEER VALLEY PROGRAMS
(Boys and Girls born between 8/1/79 and 7/31/91)

\$25.00 registration fee per child

\$60.00 Maximum per family

Child's Social Security Number and Date of Birth are Required

NOTE: Co-ed under 17 league will play on Sunday afternoons only!

A.S.A. Soccer Jackets will be on display and available for ordering

Agawam Piranha Swim Team Signups



Ages 5 through 18

March 30, 1996
10:00am - 2:00pm
Agawam Middle School

For more information about the summer swim program please call
Steve Adamski at 789-2451

Girls' Ski Banquet



THE AGAWAM HIGH girls' varsity ski team put the final touches on another good season with a banquet on Thursday, March 11th. IN TOP PHOTO - Captain Meagan Moriarty is pictured with veteran Coach Jim Graveline. IN PHOTO BELOW, Meagan Moriarty and Brigitte Blum are the two graduating seniors on the team. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



Dynamos U12 Boys' Indoor Champs



THE AGAWAM DYNAMOS were the Under 12 boys' indoor soccer champs for the second session with a record of 8-0. Team members are, back row - Coach Ken Cizek, Mike McGeoghan, Joe Clark, Ryan Ward, Dave Bienia, Paul Lagasse, Brian Marsh, Louie LeClair, and Assistant Coach Jim Stevenson. Front row - Vinny Martucci, Chris Evans, Shawn Roberts, Jon Penna, Greg Cizek, Mike Dombrowski, Joe Stevenson, and Paul Pilegi.

Agawam Parks & Recreation Department Has Summer Employment Apps. Available

The Agawam Parks & Recreation Department is now accepting applications for summer employment. Applicants must be 16 years or older to be eligible for employment.

Applications and brief job descriptions are available at the Recreation Office, 760 Cooper

Street, Agawam, MA. Application deadline is April 15, 1996.

For more information, call the Agawam Recreation Department at 786-0400, extension 456.

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Kopec Takes 1996 Opener At Riverside Raceway

Chris Kopec has done it again!

For three years in a row, the season opener at Riverside Park Speedway has been dominated by Chris Kopec, the 1994 Winston Racing Series Champion. And, just like his new sponsor's name—"Clean Sweep"—it was one of the same in the 75-lap Budweiser Big Chill.

A crowd of 4,795 came out on Saturday, March 23rd, in freezing, 18-degree weather to watch the first Modified race in New England. The 75-lap feature was started by the luck of the draw after Steve Park set the fast time.

Reggie Ruggiero got the jump on the start and led for the first 10 laps. Chris Kopec was right there to challenge and then, on a restart on lap 12, it appeared that Ruggiero's car faltered as Kopec moved into the lead and started to pull away from the field.

Another strong challenge came when Doug Meserve moved into second with the Citgo-sponsored Pontiac. In the final laps of the feature, the real battle was for third between Ruggiero, Ted Riggott, and Richard Savary.

At the checker it was Chris Kopec (Flamingo Racing) by a half-lap over Doug Meserve (Citgo). Third was Reggie Ruggiero (Ed Oles-Gary's Texaco), followed by Ted Riggott (International Auto Body) and Richard Savary (C&W Horse) to round out the top five.

Sixth through 10th in the Modifieds were Dave Berube, Tom Jensen, Dan Avery, Tony Papale, and Bruce Batchelder.

"The crew was great. I knew with a good time trial, we would be a major factor. Three years in a row, I won the opener," said Kopec, adding, "This was a great start for 'Clean Sweep' and Flamingo Racing."

The "Dave Caruso Memorial" Pro Stock feature of 50 laps was marred by several cautions, as the leader Tom Carey had a problem on the start. Then, it was Eddy Carroll who took off and set a blistering pace through most of the minor spins.

When the checker came out, it was the Riverside Motorsports team in for the victory. Second went to John Lobo, Jr. (Wagner Rug), and third was Scott Bouley (Signature Central), who was also a contender for the win. Fourth was Jeff Connors, who had a hard battle with fifth-place finisher Rich Vasseur (Porter-Chester).

Rounding out the top 10 were Jim Bainfield, Bill Lauridsen, Jeff Horn, Ed Carroll, and Doug D'Alessandro.

"Dave Caruso was a great racer and we all miss him. This victory is for him, and his memory will always be with us," said Eddy Carroll, who added, "Last year, I won the opener; this is now becoming a tradition that the Butch Shea team enjoys!"

Todd Owen jumped into the early lead on the start of the Late Model feature. Then, with seven laps gone, Glen Griswold outpowered the leader; Griswold ran so strong as the leader and pulled away by several positions. Meanwhile, Ted Chalmers was also a heavy contender.

Still, at the checker it was Glen Griswold in for the strong win. Second for the Late Models was Ted Chalmers (D&E Auto), followed by Todd Owen (Coker Const.), Chuck Docherty, and Gee Perry to round out the top five.

Coming in sixth through 10th were Bobby Ermark, Rob Valerio, Joe Rzeszutek, Wayne Coury, and Joe Czarnecki.

After the race, Griswold stated, "This was a great night. I just came from a driving school and I learned so much. The engine ran well, thanks to Valley Auto Machine and Summitt."

The first feature of the night was the Strictly Stock race, and it went from green to the checker without a caution.

Dennis Charette was the dominant car, although he was challenged by Patrick Townsend at the end. What's more, Mike Salmond was very strong early on in the 20-lap feature.

Charette was the ultimate winner, however, and he was followed by Townsend, Scott Neleber, Herb Carlon, and Chris Valerio. Rounding out the top 10 were Glen Reilly, Jim Sommers, Todd Melvezzi, Dennis Billa, and Keith Miller.

This coming Saturday, March 30th, the NASCAR action continues with four divisions (the Modifieds, Pro Stocks, Late Models, and Strictly Stocks) for the "April Fools Fantastic," starting at 6:00 p.m. at Riverside Park Riverside.

The March 30th event is family prices at \$12.99 per adult and \$2.99 per child (11 years of age and under).

All the local news with us, each week

Riverside Gearing Up For March 30th With 50 Lap Feature For Modifieds

While some facilities are still dormant, Riverside Park Speedway in Agawam is gearing up for its second NASCAR Winston Racing Series program.

Last week's opener on March 23rd drew 109 competitors in 18-degree weather, and now it's time for this Saturday's (March 30th) program, the "April Fools Fantastic," which will begin at 6:00 p.m. and feature the NASCAR tour-type Modifieds, Pro Stocks, Late Models, and Strictly Stocks.

This coming Saturday, the NASCAR Modified tour-type division will be led by drivers like Chris Kopec. Kopec won the first race of the season for the last three years; however, a strong challenge will be expected from Doug Meserve (in the Guy Ronzoni-Citgo No. 1) and, of course, never count out the senior veteran Reggie Ruggiero (with his own Ed Oles No. 11).

Other Modified favorites include Ted Riggott with Bill Meyer's International Auto Body No. 47; Riggott, by the way, has a good shot at winning the Winston national title.

Another title contender is Dave Berube, who finished as the runner-up last year with consistent top-10 finishes. Meanwhile, Richard Savary is also long overdue for a victory in the Modifieds after a top-five finish in the season opener.

Tom Jensen is also expected to be strong, and don't forget the champion Dan Avery, whose smooth style of driving and top-shelf equipment make his 10A team a contender. Plus, the list of rookies is very strong with Marty Leary, Renee Dupuis, Rob Summers, and Robbie Fuller.

The Modifieds will run a 50-lap feature this Saturday, with the pits opening at 11:00 a.m.

The Pro Stocks were also highlighted by an excellent car count on the opening night of the 1996

season. Eddy Carroll won for the second season opener in a row.

Still, heavy opposition came from fan favorite Scott Bouley, and the veteran John Lobo really put on a show. On March 30th, strong opposition will be expected in the 40-lap Pro Stock feature from Rich Vasseur, Jeff Connors, Jim Banfield, Bill Lauridsen, Jeff Horn, and Doug Dell.

The Late Models, as always, put on a real good program, with Glen Griswold winning the 25-lap "Big Chill." Thirty-five-year veteran Ted Chalmers is always a threat; and, when it comes to young talent, never count out Todd Owen, Bob Ermark, Rob Valerio, and Joe Czarnecki. A strong challenge is also expected from Wayne Coury, Joe Rzeszutek, and the talented Chuck Docherty.

Riverside always features a strong field of Strictly Stocks with over 50 pre-registered. Dennis Charette, Patrick Townsend, Scott Neleber, Mike Salmond, Herb Carlon, Chris Valerio, Jim Sommers, and Keith Miller are just some of the talented drivers who are expected to provide the action in this 25-lap race on March 30th.

As was stated earlier, the pits will open at 11:00 a.m. this Saturday, and the fee for NASCAR members is \$18. The South Gate will open at 4:00 p.m. for general admission race fans, and the action is scheduled to start at 6:00 p.m. (it is estimated that the program will be over by 10:15).

The admission price is \$12.99 for adults and \$2.99 for kids 11 and under. Therefore, an average family of four (based on two adults and two children) can attend this racing program for less than \$32.

For more information, call 1-800-370-7488 (Race Department, No. 4, or extension 3264).

Tri-Parish Bowlers See Catholic University Grab First Place

As the Tri-Parish Bowling League continues to move towards the Grand Championships later this spring, the race for the Round Three crown continues to heat. After the Monday, March 25th weekly battle at the Agawam Bowl, Catholic University leads the pack with 15½ wins, followed by second place St. Michael's with 14 wins.

Fourth place Boston College (12 wins) gave CU all it could handle this past Monday night. BC winners were STELLA BARBIERI (283, 88.15 in Women's B), LARRY FORTIER (huge night for Larry - 351 - 96.1 in Men's A), and Captain "Jungle" JIM MCCORMICK, a 329-296 victory over CU Captain BILL GRIFFIN.

"Jungle" Jim averages 103.42 in Men's AA while Mr. Griffin is at 102.57, also in Men's AA. Rolling well in a losing effort was TOM "Not Tony" CURTIS (310). "Not Tony" was upset by the torrid rolling of Larry Fortier.

The next match saw fifth place Notre Dame (12 wins) face last place St. Anselm (5 wins). St. A's had three winners - leadoff LOU NAPOLITAN (232, 84.35 in Men's C), YVONNE CHARTIER (320, 105.2 in Women's AA), and Captain "Luscious" LOU MULDER, a 334-325 winner over top women's roller FLO ROCHFORD. "Luscious" is at 110.44 in the Open Class, good for third place, while Flo continues to lead all of the women at 106.53.

The only winner for ND was second roller "Wild" BILLY ALDRICH (285, 93.24 in Men's B).

Sixth place St. Mary's (10 wins) and eighth place Holy Cross (6½ wins) were next up on the lanes. And it was a clean sweep for HC. HC winners were MARSHA DOBIE (235, 83.63 in Women's C), JOHN MLINEK (260-257 over VENETTA SNYDER; John is at 95.47 to lead Men's B), SUE GRIFFIN (310, 99.17 in Women's AA), and Captain DEBBIE POIRIER, a 285-280 winner over JOHN LONCRINI.

Debbie wasn't too happy about her score as she is now at 105.53 in the Open Class. She is still trying to catch Flo Rochford to regain her top women's rolling crown, something she has held for years. Mr. Loncrini is at 99.33 in Men's AA.

Second place St. Michael's took three-out-of-four from seventh place St. Louis (7 wins). St. Mike's winners were leadoff MAYBETH "Miss Consistent" COUGHLIN (269, 93.11 in Women's A), JEAN BUONICONTI (284, 95.23 in Women's AA), and VI MASSOIA (317, 93.71 in Women's A). The only winner for St. Lou was Captain GLEN ADAMS (309-280) over substitute anchorman "Steady" Eddie Gallerani. Mr. Adams leads the Men's AA at 109.28.

Fordham (3rd place/12 wins) was the bye team this week. The scores are as follows: LINDA TOBEY (235), CORI NAPOLITAN (305), TERRY CERPOVICZ (311), and Captain "Jollie" OLLIE MULDER (339).

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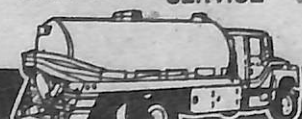
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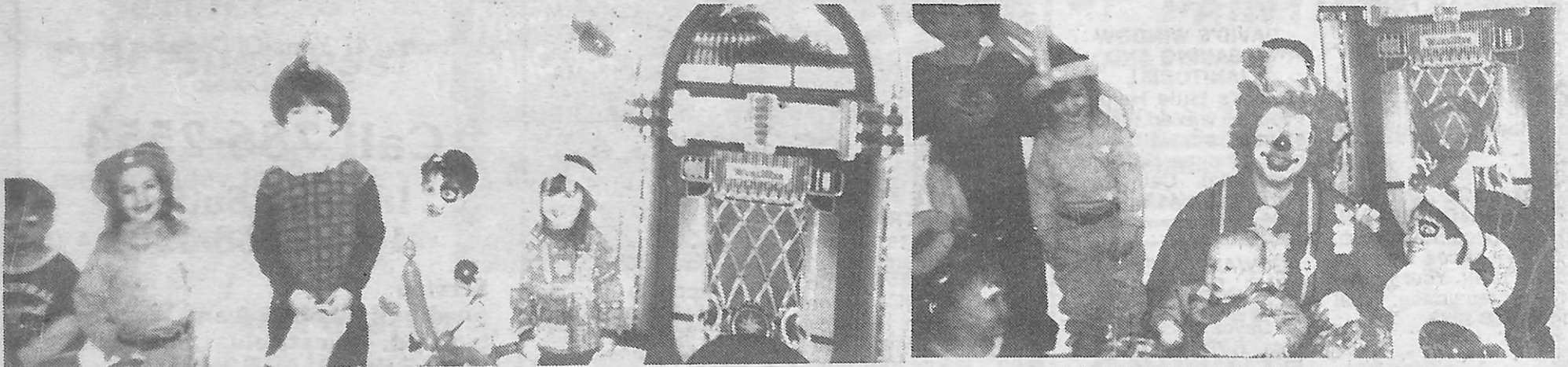


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